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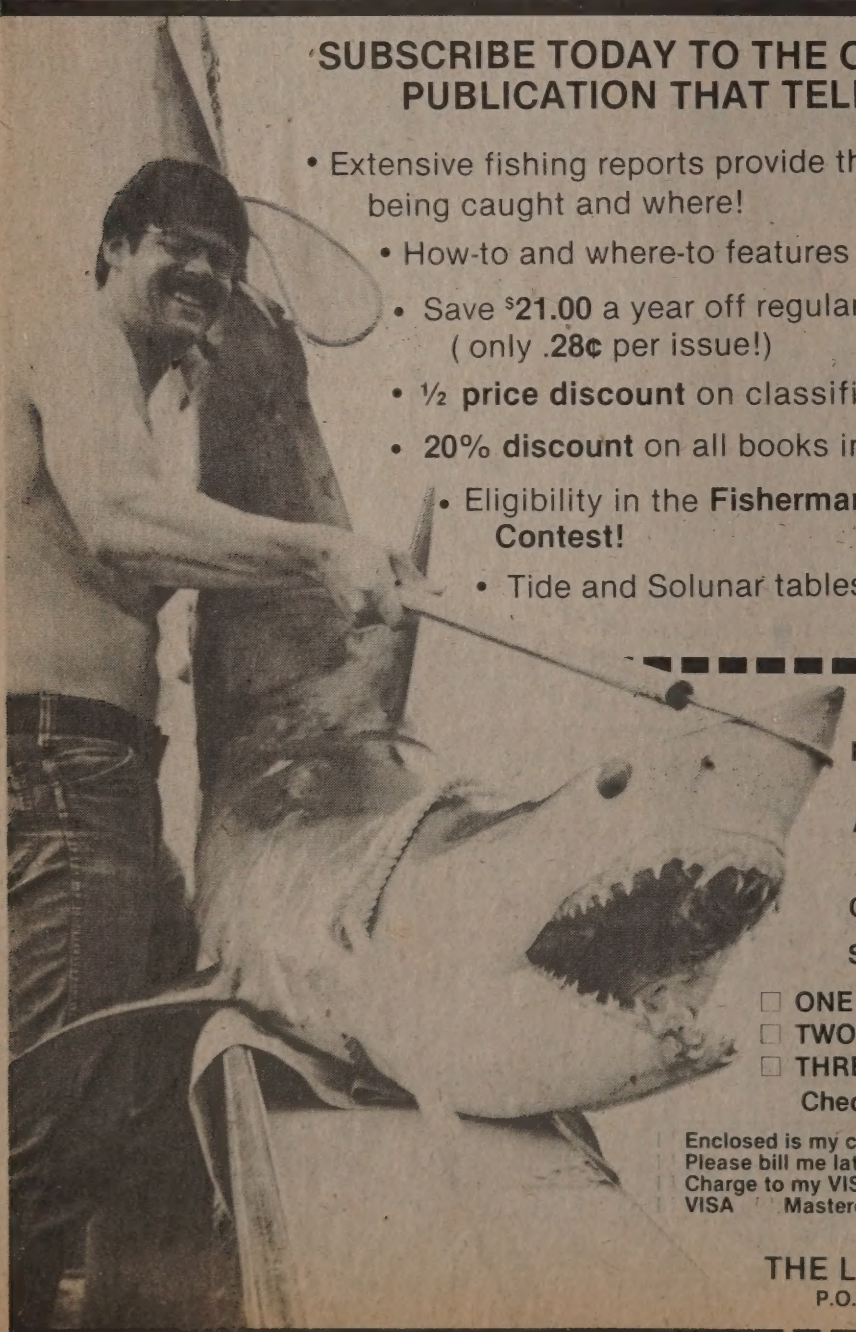

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The Largest Weekly Sportfishing Magazine in the United States!

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Lou Palma displays one of the Bait Tails he co-designed with the late Al Reinfelder. Pat Abate tells how to make a real-life copy of this deadly lure on page 18.

COMING NEXT WEEK: **SCORE WITH COD**

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STATE DEBATING TAKEOVER OF MONTAUK PROPERTY.

This is an editorial note to inform our readers about recent state land acquisition debates that are ongoing. The land involved is the former Camp Hero parcel located just west of Montauk State Park.

At this time, both East Hampton Town and the Long Island Parks and Recreation Commission have a potential interest in the property. The Long Island Fisherman, along with the Montauk Surfcasters Association and the Fishing Advisory Council have been working hard to convince them of the need and importance of acquiring the land for the future recreational needs of all the people of the state. The discussions have been low key, pleasant, informative and there has been evidence of a willingness to consider diverse points of view. A complete and extensive editorial will follow within several weeks.

BOATING SKILLS AND SEAMANSHIP COURSE

Flotilla 13-10 of the Coast Guard Auxiliary will be offering courses at Plainview Public Library on Old Country Road.

October 19-October 26, Monday evenings, 9PM.

November 2-November 9, 16, 23 & 30, Mondays at 9PM.

December 7-14 & 21, Mondays, 9PM.

April 19-26, Mondays, 9PM.

May 3-10, 17 & 24, Mondays, 9PM.

June 7-14 & 21, Mondays, 9PM.

Registration will be the first night of class. Any additional information may be obtained by calling Janice Scheinker at (516) 433-1382.

HIGH HILL STRIPER CLUB SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

The High Hill Striper Club continues to lead the pack in this, the second year of the New York Surf Fishing Contest. As of Sept. 30, 1981, High Hill was in first place with 1145 points, about double the second place club. In addition, High Hill members have released well over 1000 lbs. of qualifying fish which bears witness to the club's philosophy of conservation. In the most point category within the club's annual competition, Bill Muller is first, Fred Schwab second, and Tom Fitzsimmon's third. Biggest bass category is led by Bill Bomba's 40 lber., biggest weak Clyde Jones at 12 lbs. 15 oz., and biggest blue Tom Fitzsimmons with a 14 lber. High Hill will be accepting applications for membership November through April. If you are interested in joining a hard fishing surf club that is politically and environmentally active, call Larry DosSantos evenings at 516-489-4419.

FARRAGUT STRIPER CLUB

The Farragut Striper Club held its annual Fall Montauk Surf Fishing Contest from September 25-29. Despite unfavorable winds and other adverse conditions, members did well. Two striped bass and about two dozen weakfish were landed. The largest bass was caught by Ken Kassan, 33 lbs. 8 oz., in the early morning at dead-low tide, on a large white bucktail.

AQUACULTURE REPORT ISSUED

The growing demand for fish and seafood in the United States has prompted the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economics and Statistics Service to release a new report that gives economic data on aquaculture and analyzes the supply, demand, and price factors affecting the industry.

The report, titled "Aquaculture Outlook and Situation," will be published twice a year, in April and October.

A companion report includes catfish and trout sales for 1980, as well as their commercial inventories as of February 1, 1981.

According to the report, aquaculture is providing additional agricultural revenue and jobs in some regions. It accounts for a significant portion of the U.S. supply of catfish, trout, crayfish, oysters, and salmon.

Copies of "Aquaculture Outlook and Situation" are available from Economics and Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 0054-S, Washington, D.C. 20250. Copies of the companion report are available from Room 0005-S, at the same address.

CHUM LINES

WHERE DO THE WEAKFISH SPAWN?

I always thought that weakfish spawned in every state's bays when traveling inshore during the spring. But the other day I was buying bloodworms at Sheepshead Bay, and I overheard a conversation between two men. One of the men said that when weakfish are in the northern area, that the last place they do spawn is in the bays of New Jersey waters! When the fish do arrive in Jamaica Bay waters, they are only here to feed and not to spawn, because he said that Jamaica Bay is not fit for spawning. Could the statement of this man be true? If not, then tell me exactly where they do spawn in Jamaica Bay—and please, don't just say along the marsh grasses. Name

specific places in the Bay. Thank you. *Miss B. Herrera, Brooklyn, NY.*

As usual Barbara, you've come up with a beauty! I'm not sure, however, if I understand your question fully what with New Jersey and Jamaica Bay all thrown in together. Therefore, I'll respond in a general way. Northern weakfish Cynoscion regalis *have a range from the Carolinas to Rhode Island. Of course, some individuals will stray well behond the northern and southern boundaries. It is my understanding that they spawn throughout their range when water temperatures push out of the 50s and into the low 60s. This event, of course, would occur a lot earlier in southern waters than it does in the north. To further compound the problem, some recent research suggests that at least summer individuals spawn through the summer and even as late as early October. Young of the year fish have been reported in many of our estuaries such as Great South Bay, Peconic Bay, and Long Island Sound. The DEC even netted young of the year weakfish in Little Neck Bay a couple of years back. However, I must admit that I have never read reports of young of the year weaks in Jamaica Bay, but it wouldn't surprise me a bit if the weaks spawn there too. Perhaps some of our readers have come across the little purple and yellow critters in Jamaica Bay. Let us know.* Dr. W.A.M.

RESPONDS TO NATIONAL SCENE

We've known of your Associate Editor, Al Ristori, for a long time, and recognize that he has become a spokesman for the recreational boating/fisherman, a sort of professional recreational boater, as it were. His article, *Crack Down on Tugs*, which appeared in the Sept. 3rd issue of LIF, has much fire and passion. Unfortunately, it reflects misconceptions that are common to much of the non-professional boating public.

Inasmuch as the National Party Boat Owners Alliance, whose membership consists solely of the professional, licensed segment of the fishing industry, and which for the last 30 years has been dedicated to the promulgation of practical regulations concerning safety of life at sea, we feel that it would be in the public interest to make your readers aware of some of the problems encountered or created by recreational boaters, especially in the light of the KAREN E disaster.

At this point in time, not all of the evidence has been brought before the Coast Guard hearing in the Karen E case. However, from the testimony introduced thus far, it is becoming more and more apparent that the underlying cause of the accident was the owner and operator of that ill-fated vessel himself. As a matter of fact, the behavior of the media at the outset of that story should be an eye-opener for readers. Most of the coverage was a prime example of the lack of objectivity of many of the reporters—especially on TV, who immediately tried to crucify the tugboat captain without knowing all of the circumstances. But now, even the worst of the "bleeding hearts" who initially swallowed the Karen E owner's story whole, have backed off and are presenting the other side of the picture. It is a pretty devastating picture of a man who had enough money to buy a yacht, but no sea-savvy to go with it, and who put himself, his family and friends in harm's way.

We will agree with Al that it is fortunate that there was a survivor, but for an entirely different reason. This survivor's testimony is serving to bring home to recreational boat owners the fact that they have a responsibility to know what they are about when they venture out on the water. Unfortunately, five lives are a terrible price to pay for such a lesson.

Although the Coast Guard has tried to improve pleasure boat safety by tightening up on requirements for pleasure boat manufacturers, and the latter have had to meet those specifications, about the only qualification necessary to buy and run one of these craft is enough money for the down payment. Now that's a damned poor set of credentials to qualify a person to operate a boat.

If you stop to think about the fact that both written and performance tests are required to get an automobile driver's license, it should give the average boater some pause when he realizes that the private boating sector is not required to show any competency whatsoever. And Rules of the Road afloat are more complicated than on a highway! The Coast Guard has neither the appropriations nor manpower to institute licensing for every private boat owner; and by the time the states get around to requiring some knowledge by a boat operator, the toll amongst private boat owners will continue to climb.

So what can you do about it? Enroll in a Coast Guard Auxiliary or Power Squadron course and at least learn some of the basics for your own protection, for the safety of those whom you might have aboard, and so that you don't precipitate an accident out of sheer ignorance. Of course, no one segment of seagoing operators wears a halo 100% of the time, but by far the worst offenders are to be found amongst recreational sailors. The answer that Al Ristori received from the Coast Guard officer, that is, "there would be no problem is recreational sailors paid attention to the signals, etc.," is not "cavalier," for it is based on Coast Guard experience, on Coast Guard statistics, and it is the truth. Did you know that about 80% of the Search & Rescue costs are expended on the private recreational sector?

Ristori tells of his hair-raising encounter with a tug and tow, and we can appreciate his fright. But, "let him without sin cast the first stone."

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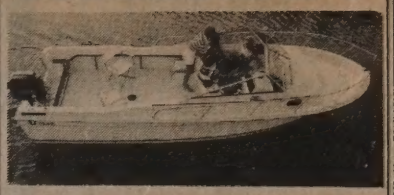

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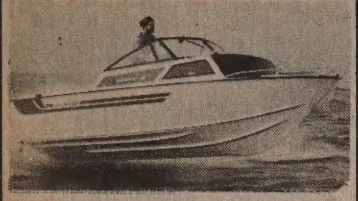

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Al says the radar wasn't working properly on the boat he was aboard and says nothing about the operator's precautionary efforts in running in the fog. Did his buddy have a bow lookout? Were they sounding the proper fog signals? At what speed were they traveling? Had they given a security message on Channels 16 and 13 VHF-FM? How large was their boat? Of what material was it fabricated?

Let's assume it was of fiberglass. The modern fiberglass boat makes a very poor radar target, so knowledgeable operators of plastic (or wooden-hulled) boats, and who are aware of this deficiency, erect a radar reflector on the mast or upper part of the vessel in order to improve its radar "reflectability." Small, skiff-type boats which have a low profile, make even worse radar targets. When running close to radar-equipped vessels, they tend to become lost in the sea return and other clutter on the screen. A relatively inexpensive radar reflector, which can be purchased from almost any marine hardware store, is an item that is well worth the small investment, for the life you save by installing it might well be your own.

As far as the lack of response by the Coast Guard officer to Ristori's other question is concerned, that is, "What can be done to make a tug and tow more obvious on a radar screen?"; it would appear that the officer was simply proving himself to be a gentleman by not answering it. You see, steel is the best radar reflector you can have, and a steel tug with steel barges in tow light up like Christmas bulbs on a radar screen. As a matter of fact, a tug and tow is the most recognizable and unmistakable of radar signatures. But, of course, one's radar must be working to begin with in order to receive the signals. And the radar aboard the boat Al was on was not properly adjusted. How come it took a near disaster before they realized that the set wasn't painting?

What can you do to protect yourself if you don't have radar? Use your VHF-FM radio, properly. Turn to Channels 16 and 13 and transmit a SECURITY call (pronounced securi-tay). A SECURITY call might go something like this:

"SECURITY, SECURITY, SECURITY. This is the fishing vessel *Revenge*, eastbound, passing through the Race. My radar is out. Any vessels in the area please acknowledge."

"Fishing Vessel *Revenge*, this is the tug *Ace*, two miles south of Fishers Island, westbound for the Race with gas barge on a long hawser. I've got a target (on radar) four miles off my port bow."

"Tug *Ace*, this is the fishing vessel *Revenge* back. If that's the only target you have, then it must be me."

"Tug *Ace* back to *Revenge*. Okay, Cap, we'll pass you on one whistle (port to port). Is that okay?"

"One whistle will be fine, Cap. Fishing vessel *Revenge* standing by on 13 and 16."

Of course, if the manner of passing had posed any difficulty to either vessel, other passing arrangements could have been made. Channel 13 VHF-FM, the bridge-to-bridge channel, works like a champ as long as idiots who don't know or care what it is for stay off it. Too often, know-things who think that they've discovered a quiet, "secret" channel, proceed to b.s. about fishing; or, as in a recent incident, one marina operator in Montauk decided to use it as his very own working channel to contact some of his weekend warriors. Such misuse and abuse of Channel 13 is totally irresponsible, not to mention illegal.

In addition to learning the Nautical Rules of the Road, just a little common sense on the part of private boat owners could go a long way toward preventing problems. For example, some "hotshot" fishermen, intent on keeping their "secret spots" secret, turn off their running lights and/or don't sound fog signals in the fog, so that other boats can't find them. This behavior is the height of recklessness, for no fish is worth such a dangerous and illegal game. Then there are the skiff owners who think they have as much "rights" as anyone else, and who are apt to give a party boat the one-finger salute, cut right in front and come to a dead stop to get on the "hotspot" before the larger vessel does. Poor seamanship and infraction of the Rules of the Road aside, such characters might find that their version of "equal rights" could well do them in if the larger vessel runs right over them. Remember, the larger the vessel, the longer it takes to stop. And if there is a following sea pushing, it makes it a certainty that the larger boat won't be able to stop in time to avoid this type of wise guy who is big on brass but short on common sense.

By comparison, the largest party boat is but a toy compared to a tug and tow for the tug cannot stop for an additional reason. THERE ARE NO BRAKES ON THE BARGE, and the only way it can be stopped it to tow it in a circle until it loses way. Don't expect the tug and tow to be able to maneuver out of your way, as it is simply not that maneuverable. If the tug were to stop suddenly, the barge would keep going, run right over the tug and turn it over. That is why under the Rules of the Road the tug and tow is a little more "equal" than you are. It behooves YOU to stay out of harm's way.

No, "cracking down on tugs" is not the solution. A better awareness on the part of private boaters of the perils of the sea, of the necessity to learn the basics of good seamanship, and an understanding that they must first try to fend for themselves before demanding assistance from others, is more to the point. *Capt. Geo. F. Glas, Exec. Dir., NPBOA, Inc.*

NATIONAL SCENE

State Dept. Parrots Old Line

by Al Ristori

While I've already expressed disappointment with the actions of the Commerce Department of the new Administration so far, I'm hardly surprised that the State Department continues to parrot the same old line. Administrations come and go, but nothing ever seems to change at State.

At the House Merchant Marine & Fisheries Committee hearings on the bill to include tunas in the 200-Mile Limit (H.R. 4457, sponsored by Rep. James Howard of New Jersey and Rep. Christine Schneider of Rhode Island), the State Department representative read a statement which simply repeated all the tired old arguments put forth by the high seas tuna industry representatives. It could as well have been written by them—and perhaps it was. In any case, it indicated that hardly a grain of common sense or concern for American fishery resources had infiltrated State since some faces changed in January.

As all but the most naive realize by now, the reason for the tuna exemption in the 200-Mile Limit law was to enable the State Department to back up the wealthy West Coast tuna industry in its incursions into the fishery jurisdictions of other countries. The "sweetheart" compensation deal that the high seas tuna fishermen benefit from has been worth millions to them. The funds they've invested in a massive lobbying effort have certainly been worthwhile.

Of course, the tuna industry and State would have us believe that the tuna exemption is the result of high-minded biological principal. Indeed, they've been repeating that lie for so long that they even seem to believe it now. The hypocrisy of that position is proven by the fact that, during the 200-mile limit debate, the Conte Amendment to put all oceanic species except tunas under the law was accepted without debate. At no time throughout the entire legislative process did State or any other agency protest this "violation" of the sacred concept that oceanic species must remain under international regulation. Furthermore, I am not aware of any attempt since the law was passed to rescind the Conte Amendment. Though the Conte Amendment is very important to sport fishermen, I bring up this inconsistency in the biological position being taken by State at every opportunity. As you might suspect, they've never taken the bait—but just go on parroting the tuna industry line regardless of its inaccuracies.

Proving that nothing is ever learned in State, they also continue to bore us with the assertion that U.S. extension of jurisdiction over tuna will encourage other countries to do likewise. That's the same old line we heard for years during the 200-mile limit debate. Talk about Nero fiddling while Rome burned! Foreign fleets devastated our fishery stocks and American fishermen were left holding the bag, while other countries imposed 200 mile limits to protect their fisheries. As we emphasized then, other countries don't give a damn about the internal laws of the United States. They do precisely what our diplomats should be doing: what is best for their own countries. Apparently, nothing has been learned over the years—and State just goes on pretending that other countries are really concerned about our policies toward tuna.

The latest statement says "such a radical change (inclusion of tunas in the 200 mile limit—editor) in our law would entail severe consequences for U.S. tuna fishermen operating off Latin America, where the greatest portion of the U.S. tuna catch takes place." What will those consequences be? They certainly won't be tougher regulations from the Latins. The Mexicans (whose Baja California yellowfin tuna resource was really clobbered by the San Diego fleet about a decade ago) won't give the American boats a license at all, while Ecuador and Peru sell licenses at steep fees. The consequences will be internal, not external. What will happen is that the high seas tuna fleet will lose the financial protection presently provided by the beleagured taxpayers.

As if it isn't bad enough that State defies logic in an effort to justify protecting the wealthy high seas tuna interests at the expense of American fishermen and resources, they also hang onto outdated theories about tuna. There is no question but that tuna are oceanic fish which even cross the ocean occasionally. Tagging studies have also proved that the instances of trans-oceanic migration are so unusual that they can virtually be discounted. To all intents and purposes, there are separate stocks on both sides of the Atlantic. School and medium tuna don't ever seem to leave our waters, and only the odd ball giant ever gets the yen to see what's going on to the east. As a practical matter, our leading tuna biologists believe we can basically control the bluefin tuna in our waters unilaterally—and almost completely manage them with the help of Canada, the Bahamas, and Mexico. Yet, State maintains the discredited theory that "the biological characteristics and migratory habits of Atlantic bluefin tuna cannot be distinguished from those of other tunas in a manner which would rationally support a separate management approach." Actually, while we know that our bluefin rarely stray from our waters, there is also a good possibility that the yellowfins, bigeyes, skipjack, and albacore off our coasts do likewise. There just hasn't been enough tagging to support any argument about those species.

State is also convinced that the negotiations with the Japanese over the years have been very successful. They have been successful indeed, but only for the Japanese. While a member of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, I attended one of these sessions and watched the Japanese not only figuratively take our ambassador's pants down, but also take them home with them! Our Canadian friends were very amused at watching State try to negotiate with both arms tied behind their backs by our own law that gives any other country complete freedom to fish for tunas in our waters. The Canadians could afford to be amused as they allow no foreign tuna fishing in their waters, but send a purse seiner to the Mid-Atlantic every summer to load up with the school tuna we're trying to protect.

Alan Guimond, representing the fixed gear commercial fishermen, did have kind words to say about Theodore Kronmiller, the present Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oceans and Fisheries Affairs. Guimond feels that Kronmiller is really concerned about the problems created by the Japanese longliners—even if his testimony didn't give any such indication. If he is concerned, that will be an advance of sorts—as we've always had good cause to regard State Department representatives as American bureaucrats whose job was to get as much of our fisheries for

(Continued on page 37.)

FISH TALK

In Praise of Surf Fisherman

by William A. Muller

MRS. LEE FESTA OF BAY SHORE writes in praise of some surf fishermen at Democrat Point on the evening of July 21, 1981. "My husband and I arrived on the beach at about 8:10 p.m. There were a lot of people out on the bar in the inlet fishing. The water was rough and the bar was awash mid-way out and a severe tide rip was developing. Right away my husband said that the bar was too dangerous for fishing and there were other experienced looking surf fishermen on the beach who did not plan to cross the rip. The people on the outside end of the bar were mostly teenagers, wearing shorts and swim wear, but there were a few young men, too. The guy standing next to my husband turned and said there were people in the water. That's when the trouble started and we all realized that five people were swept off the bar in the deep water of the inlet. One fisherman ran back to the CB in his buggy and eventually was able to feed information to the Coast Guard. A knowledge of the tides, current, wind, fishing equipment, and experience are important in such judgment situations. It's important to have the greatest respect for the water where you fish. Those surf fishermen really did a job saving those five guys."

AGREE. I have to agree, since I was one of the surf fishermen on the beach that night. In fact, it was I standing next to your husband, although I did not know him, and spotted the first fisherman to go into the water. Judging water conditions is indeed a prime survival skill for surf fishermen and none of the experienced surf fishermen on the beach that evening attempted to cross the bar. I'll tell you something else, too. Tremendous praise should be extended to some of those on the beach. Guys like John Fritz (contributor to LIF) and Don Musso (Super Strike Lures) eagerly assisted in the rescue. And then there was Dennis Kuenzler ("cheesebox") who jumped on the CB, couldn't raise the Coast Guard, but then did get through to Augie's Bait and Tackle who relayed information to the Coast Guard. Dennis stuck with the CB, feeding information gleaned from the surf fishermen to Augie's for over an hour and then never got a thank you from any of the rescue fellas. And how about Augie's Bait and Tackle? Let's face it, he's in business and it cost him sales to stay on the CB for so long. Still he selflessly and eagerly helped. There were many other unknown people who helped in a variety of ways also, and they all deserve a big thank you. One more point that we simply can't resist. When the Coast Guard came out they sent a large vessel, a small vessel, and a helicopter. They responded quickly and were able to rescue those still stranded on the bar. Now, the tide was incoming and if you know Fire Island Inlet you know that the current zips in and out. The people swept off the bar were moving east UP the inlet with the tide. The large Coast Guard vessel that came out began searching on the ocean side of the bar and did so for almost an hour. We relayed word to them that the people were swept up the inlet, but they continued the seaward search. One can only conclude that tides move backwards in Nebraska or whatever. Finally, the bar was washed out in the days following that incident and we don't believe there have been any other incidents.

SPEAKING OF SURF...HOW DO I GET THERE? D. Serrano of New York City writes: "I was reading your magazine (a June issue) and I saw an article about fishing Cedar Beach. How can I get there if I'm driving from New York City? I do some driving to Wildwood State Park but I'm not familiar with Cedar Beach. Okay, we'll do our best to tell you how to get there, but first a word of caution. Cedar Beach is a Babylon Town Beach and not a part of the State Parks system. Therefore, you'll need a Babylon sticker in order to gain access. Now, we'll say this. Not everyone who fishes Cedar Beach has a Babylon sticker. After the swimming season it is often possible to park in the lot without anyone interfering. However, sometimes the gates are locked at night. We also know of some people who even fish that beach without a sticker in the summer, but we don't know how they manage it. With that said, let's get to the directions. Take Southern State Parkway to either the Meadowbrook or Wantagh State Parkways. Take these south to the Ocean Parkway and head to the east. A few miles west of Captree State Park you'll see the signs for Cedar Beach. If you get towed away or a ticket, you're on your own.

W. FISHER OF NEW YORK CITY. "We have all heard of successful transplantation of striped bass from the East Coast to the West Coast in the 1880s. What about a reverse transplantation. Has such an experiment ever been tried. Could scientists tell in advance if there would be any dangers to the East Coast ecology?"

PERHAPS. To the best of my limited knowledge, a West to East Coast striper transplant has not been attempted. The reason is obvious. What purpose would such a reverse transplant serve? We still have striped bass on the East Coast; they aren't extinct. However, the size of our stock is down a lot. The West Coast has experienced a similar decline over the last decade and they tell us its mostly because of the great quantities of water that have been pumped into the desert southwest, from the San Francisco Delta to green-up lawns and fill pools in the growing desert developments. The question of possible ecological damage involved with a reverse transplant is intriguing. It isn't likely that such a transplant would be damaging, because the bass is not a NEW species to be introduced. However, suppose the genetics of the West Coast bass has changed a lot in the last 100 years. Could those new genetic combinations upset the natural East Coast stocks? Who knows?

AL BETRO WRITES ABOUT A RECENT CATCH. "I thought you might be interested in the unusual circumstances of a recent catch. The sea bass weighed 5½ lbs., was about two feet long, and had a large distinct hump on the back of its head. We were fishing aboard my 20' boat and doing a good job on 2 to 5 lb. blues using TriFins on light spinning tackle just south of Cranes Neck. The sea bass hit a grey WhipTail. I know that sea bass will hit jigs in deep water offshore, but I never expected to hook a humpback in shallow water. Upon gutting the fish, I found sand eels in its stomach. I assume that it was a male. This only proves again that one never knows what is going to hit that lure or bait and it's always possible for the unexpected to add an extra bonus measure of excitement to your fishing."

WHY NOT? The fish was probably a male from your description and it isn't that unusual to find them inshore. Decades ago, when sea bass were more plentiful, we used to catch

(Continued on page 31.)

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THIS WEEK'S WINNING NUMBER IS:

676-NUN

LAST WEEK'S WINNER IS:

No call was received by the Wednesday deadline, therefore there is no winner for last week's L.I.F. Bumper Sticker Contest.

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VIKING FLEET	JIB FLEET	CAPT. BILL	DOROTHY B	APACHE	Capt. CLARK II
MARLIN IV	Capt. BOB JOSEPH	SUPER SPRAY	PILOT II	EVER READY	CASEY LEE
	Capt. SCOTTY	ALOMA II		EBB TIDE III	WILHELRIC II
	Capt. BEN LITWIN	STARSTREAM II			COMMODORE
	CAPT. ROD	Capt. LOU FLEET			
	CAPT. JOSEPH	Miss FREEPORT			

COMING HOME

by Andy Regina

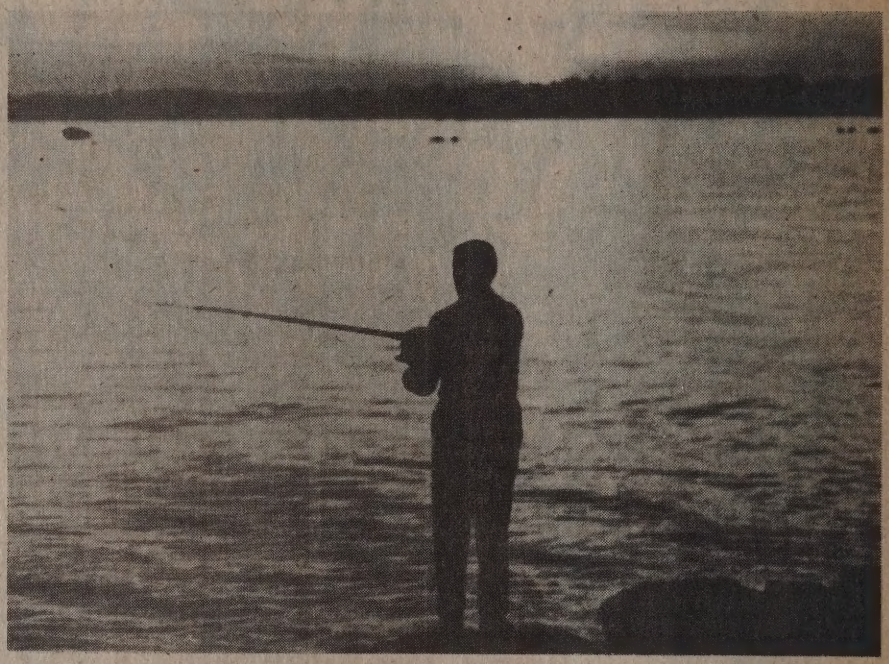
The fog tiptoed in on muted cat paws, silently and methodically, like a fluffy grey kitten stalking a ball of twine. It was way past the normal fishing season, but abnormally warm weather made it seem like late summer again, although now that the sun was going down it was becoming quite chilly, downright cold. Droplets of water beaded my eyebrows and moustache. The bib of my waders was becoming coated with a patina of hoarfrost, and I sorely needed windshield wipers for my eyeglasses.

Up to my knees in water, I strained to see my plug, some fifty feet out in the Sound, but it was impossible to do so in the mixed, murky gloom of descending fog and encroaching darkness. All I could do was to continue my retrieve and hope for the best, but, to tell the truth, it looked like a lost cause.

First of all, like I said, it was long past the normal season, and any bass I was seeking should have been long gone by then. Secondly, I had no business being there in the first place. It had been years since I'd worked a beach, and sneaking onto north shore private property was something better done by people half my age. Slipping past that barking dog had been fairly easy, but hopping barbed-wire fences in waders was not for fat old men!

What prompted this rash act on my part was the dreaded thought of facing another long, dull off-season. It seems like the winters are getting longer every year, and I just wanted one more shot at fishing before I had to rack my rod and face that boob-tube again. Local party boats had halted operations and private boats had been hauled out weeks ago; so the last choice to save my sanity was to return to fishing a beach again—which is what I eventually did.

It's amazing how things seem to go full circle at times. I mean, like life was on some mysterious cycle of its own. Starting out as a fisherman, I chose surfcasting because it was the least expensive method for me to adopt at a time when I didn't have the change for a quarter in my pockets. Further amazing is the way that surfcasting can grow on you. It holds a strange charisma that gets into your blood and once a beach rat, always a beach rat, I guess. Some guys fall in love with the solitude, while others rave about battling big fish under fairly primitive conditions. Still others seem to be taken by the tranquility



and serenity where sand meets sea and sea meets sky; and some poor souls just plain get seasick and prefer to keep their feet on solid ground.

My preferences incorporate a multitude of reasons, and that sweet song of the breeze sighing over the tips of the sawgrass on the dunes has whispered to me in dulcet tones ever since I first stepped on sand, long ago, and lures me back time and time again. I never truly left the beach for very long anyhow, and never because I really wanted to. But as we grow up we assume a greater share of adult responsibilities and there were times that I was forcibly kept away, like it or not.

I guess that our first separation was the most painful, but that holds true with any love, and I was smitten harder than ever upon my return. The beach remained coldly aloof for sometime; she had, after all, other lovers much truer than I. However, she soon returned my ardor with renewed zeal and rewarded me with countless happy hours, both day and night.

Our second separation was quite lengthy, enforced by military service, marriage, a burgeoning family, and the pursuit of a career. When we were finally reunited it was under different circumstances. I courted a new siren on the north shore of Long Island, forsaking the Atlantic Ocean for Long Island Sound. It was a good romance too, only different; not one burning with the reckless abandonment of youth, but rather one of mature, mutual respect. We settled into a comfortable relationship, like middle-aged married folks. I no longer demanded as much from her and she was not as lavish with her gifts. Like I said, it was a comfortable relationship.

Then I was lured away with the false promise of new delights in exotic locales and spent some years making love to distant ports, lulled into accepting boats as being just as good. it is not so: there is never anything "just as good," only cheap imitations at best or poor substitutes at worst. Humbly, I returned to my first love in desperation, determined to woo her again till she accepted me one last time, satisfied to settle into encroaching old age with her, if she'd have me. Luckily, she forgave me as she always did, and that is where our story started out today.

Halfway through my retrieve, my plug was stopped dead in its tracks. Accustomed to the school bass that proliferate my western end of the Sound, I had ventured forth with light tackle. My Childre Bucktail Stick held a Shimano Bantam 500 reel, filled to capacity with new Ande pink mono, and I was fishing a 5" Rebel floater. Like I said, it was more of an excuse to get out one last time than anything else. I didn't have much hope of

actually catching anything, really.

Line peeled off my reel against a fairly tight drag, causing the level wind mechanism to weave drunkenly back and forth in protest. Surprised at first by my uncanny luck, I raised the rod and struck as hard as I dared, setting the hooks into what felt like a real nice fish. The fish reacted by stripping line at a faster rate, and I became alarmed when I realized that I had latched onto a big bass—possibly the biggest bass of my entire life.

Still blinded by fog and darkness, I couldn't see the fish but could hear it splashing on the surface, sounding like depth charges going off, and I broke out in a nervous sweat even though it was quite cold at the time. Down to a quarter spool of line, the fish veered from its original course and reversed direction, which was all right with me because there was a jetty down the beach to my left and I didn't want that fish to reach it. Up the beach to my right was another jetty, parked in front of an old lighthouse, but that was too far away to worry about. If the fish ever got that far, it was "bye-bye baby" anyhow, right?

Reeling in slack line as the fish headed my way, I snubbed the reel with my thumb when the fish started going away from me in the opposite direction. The fish rebelled by reversing directions once more, causing me to reel hurriedly to pick up billowing slack as it came about full circle. All the while the fish was getting closer and, wonder of wonders, nothing went wrong. The flexing rod and persistent drag did the fish in. The new line held and the plug hooks didn't straighten out. I couldn't believe my good fortune, even after I caught my first glimpse of that great fish.

Close enough to see now, it was almost within gaffing range, and I was right...it **was** the biggest bass I had ever caught, probably going better than twenty pound—more likely thirty! The fish was spent, beaten by the rod tip and the reel drag, and probably by the unreasonable cold as well. It wallowed weakly on the surface as I unsheathed my gaff, finning feebly not three feet in front of me. I reached out to drive the gaff home, but stopped halfway through my swing.

That fish was mine, that's for sure; but I just reached down and unhooked my plug, then watched the fish swim slowly off into the fog. "What the hell," I thought, "nobody would believe me anyhow, and who likes to eat fish anyway, especially tough, old fish in the first place?"

The beach had been good me to once again, fulfilling my dreams beyond my wildest imagination, and I exulted in my happiness. My feelings were difficult to describe, but could have been likened to the euphoria one feels upon returning home from a long journey. Of course! That was it! Yes!! It was just like coming home!

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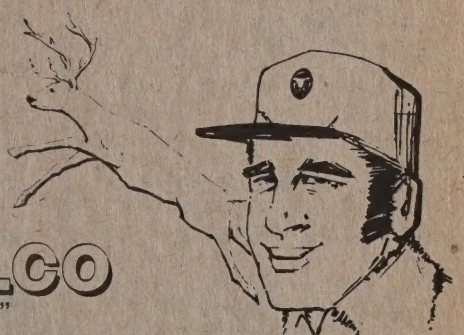

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SINKER BOUNCING

THE PRETENDER

by Matt Ahern

I'm a patsy for proverbs. You know: "Haste makes waste." ..."Never put off until tomorrow that which you can do today." Along with thousands of us, I also dote on Ching Chow's daily comments. The Chinese are particularly adept at dispensing sage advice. And who among us can deny the Bible's Book of Proverbs? All weary gags to the contrary, let us not overlook Confucius. For surely, ingrained in these succulent pearls are the lighted paths to wisdom. It therefore behooves all of us to guide our lives accordingly.

No—have no fear; this isn't going to be a sermon on how you and I should conduct our daily lives—except where it pertains to fishing.

Everyone is familiar with the proverb "Empty barrels make the most noise." This "noise" is common enough, for as we go about suffering those malicious slings and arrows while earning our daily bread, we are almost certain to witness at least one glowing example. I am quite familiar with that shrewd observation because for me the initial experience goes back a long way.

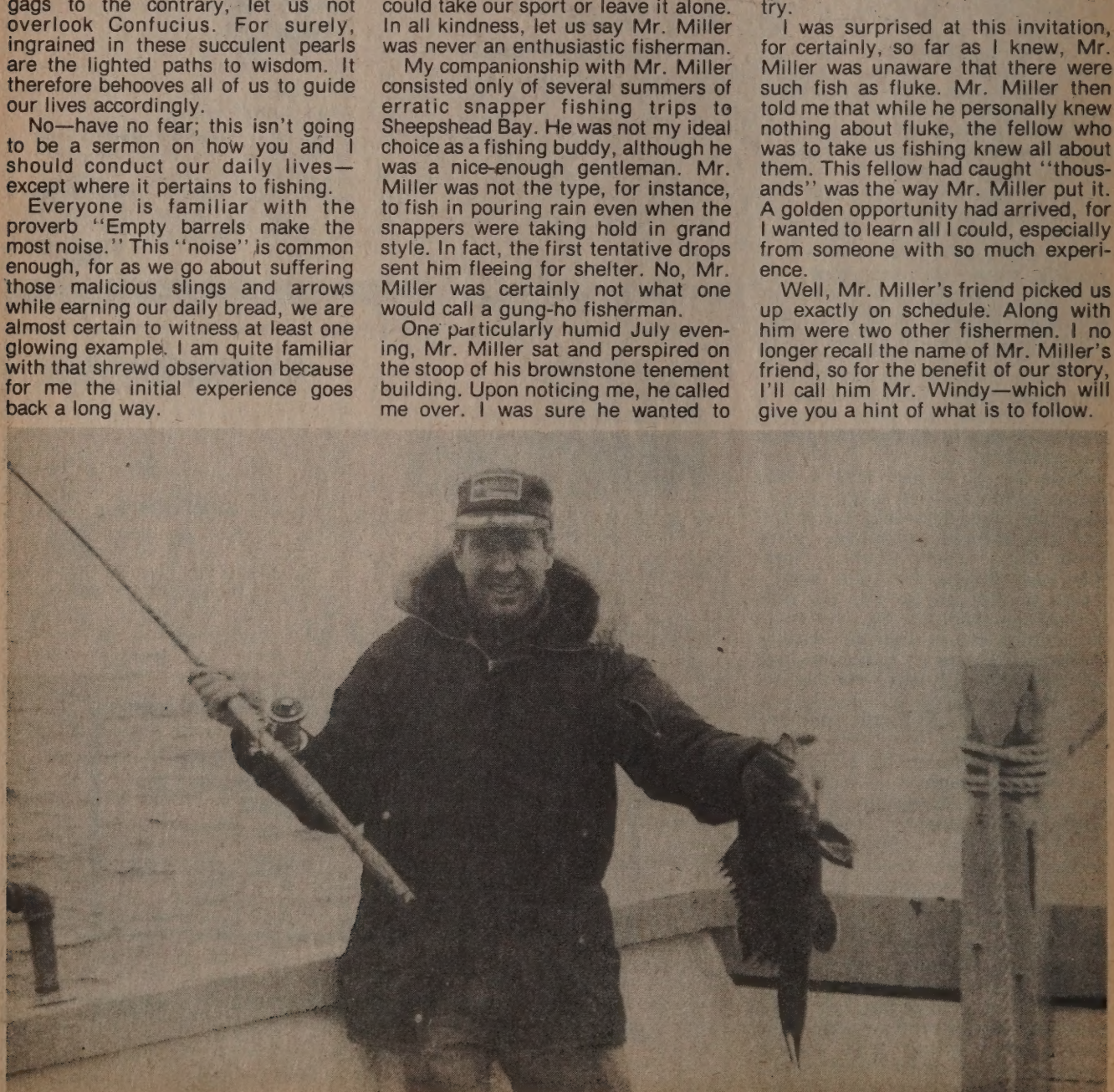
When I was but a 15-16-year-old lad in Brooklyn (over a half-century ago), I was the neighborhood kid who lived and breathed fishing. This seems to be all I had on my mind. (Still the same. No change.) At the time, I had a fishing neighbor, a Mr. Miller, who was then in his late fifties. He was that rare type of fisherman, one who could take our sport or leave it alone. In all kindness, let us say Mr. Miller was never an enthusiastic fisherman.

My companionship with Mr. Miller consisted only of several summers of erratic snapper fishing trips to Sheepshead Bay. He was not my ideal choice as a fishing buddy, although he was a nice-enough gentleman. Mr. Miller was not the type, for instance, to fish in pouring rain even when the snappers were taking hold in grand style. In fact, the first tentative drops sent him fleeing for shelter. No, Mr. Miller was certainly not what one would call a gung-ho fisherman.

One particularly humid July evening, Mr. Miller sat and perspired on the stoop of his brownstone tenement building. Upon noticing me, he called me over. I was sure he wanted to discuss the coming snapper season, but instead he surprised me by asking: "Ever catch fluke?" I told him, yes. Good, he replied. If I wanted to join him on a fluke fishing trip I was to be ready several mornings hence. One of the fellows with whom he worked would pick us up and we'd give the Freeport fluke a try.

I was surprised at this invitation, for certainly, so far as I knew, Mr. Miller was unaware that there were such fish as fluke. Mr. Miller then told me that while he personally knew nothing about fluke, the fellow who was to take us fishing knew all about them. This fellow had caught "thousands" was the way Mr. Miller put it. A golden opportunity had arrived, for I wanted to learn all I could, especially from someone with so much experience.

Well, Mr. Miller's friend picked us up exactly on schedule. Along with him were two other fishermen. I no longer recall the name of Mr. Miller's friend, so for the benefit of our story, I'll call him Mr. Windy—which will give you a hint of what is to follow.



This fisherman has no need to pretend. He knows.

In those days, the journey from Brooklyn to Freeport, while not a cross-country tour by any means, did take longer than it does today. As we drove along old Sunrise Highway, with Mr. Windy's 1927 Buick purring contentedly, I wished it would go faster. Not so much to get to the fishing as soon as possible, but to quell the flow of chatter from Mr. Windy. There never lived a fluke fisherman such as he, or at least this was what we were to believe.

The two fishermen and Mr. Miller listened attentively as their boringly loquacious friend told of his exploits. Why, ten and twelve pound doormat fluke were as common to him as those runty Jamaica Bay two pounders I'd been catching the past several summers were to me. And on and on. He told some good stories; I'll give him credit for that.

Well, anyway, we finally arrived at the Freeport waterfront, where we rented a rowboat, bought a quart of killies (ten cents), and pushed off.

Five fishermen in a rowboat doesn't allow for much room, but dedicated fishermen willingly put up with discomfort when the promise of good fishing is offered. But this wasn't what annoyed me: it was Mr. Windy's infernal chatter. And because of that, I gladly took over the oars (few outboards those days) and followed directions to the hotspot.

This hotspot was a deep-water creek (I no longer recall its exact location or its name) and when we arrived there, the fun began. Mr. Miller was seated in the bow and as we approached the area, our erstwhile skipper told him to "throw out the anchor." Anchor? I asked myself. For fluke fishing? I then knew for sure that something was not going according to Hoyle. Until that time I had never anchored for fluke; nor had I seen it done by anyone during my early fluke ventures.

Well, we began our fishing. I watched Mr. Windy for promised "pointers." And so did the others. But he was now strangely silent. So help me, he sat there with a dead line, and of course the rest of us followed suit. Time passed without a bit of action. It was evident that Mr. Windy had either never heard of fluke jigging methods, or he was doing something of which we were unaware. We sat like bumps on a log. Finally, I could stand it no longer.

"Why don't you jig?" I asked.

"Jig?" he repeated, in the manner of one who has never heard the word used that way before.

"Like this," I demonstrated. "You should jig, and we should be drifting."

He never said a word, but continued to sit there, reeling in his bait from time to time for a brief check. For the life of me, I couldn't figure the man out.

Occasionally, which is like to happen when fluke fishing with a dead line, Mr. Windy found his killie chopped in half; the sure result of crab attacks on motionless bait. He insisted, though, that these were evidence of foxy, short-biting fluke. By this time, I'd had enough of that foolishness, so I began to jig with short three-inch lifts of the rod. It didn't take long before I got a hit and lifted an average-sized two pounder into the boat.

To make a long story much shorter, the other three fellows began to jig, but it didn't do them much good. We remained anchored in that one spot and eventually finished the day with seven fluke—and not one of them a promised doormat. I'm sure had we drifted the area, we would have at least tripled the catch. Because I was actually the only one who had previous fluke fishing experience, I was lucky enough to catch five of those seven fish. Each of the fellows who had come with Mr. Windy caught one apiece. Mr. Miller lost one, but Mr. Windy never had a bit of action.

Surely, empty barrels do make a lot of noise.

As mentioned before, our talkative friend told a good story. But why, I asked myself later that evening, why didn't he use that energy to learn something constructive about fluke fishing? Apparently, all Mr. Windy did was bask in the glow of several good fishermen he'd met somewhere in his travels. When push came to shove, he quickly folded by the wayside.

There is nothing wrong when fishermen admit they don't know the answers, for who among us can say that we really and truly know? What meager knowledge we possess has been obtained by merely skimming the surface of what is available if we but had the key. It is only foolish fishermen who attempt to bluff their way. Therefore, a word to the wise is sufficient.

Let us not believe that because we had great success that last time out, we will repeat on the next trip. How many times have you "knocked the flounders dead," only to go out again the next day equipped with the same bait and knowledge, and to your chagrin discover our flat friend has left you holding the bag? Don't tell me—I already know. It happens to me all the time.

I've been sinker bouncing for nearly sixty years and do you know I don't know a damn thing about it! I can tell you about baits and methods of fishing that work most times—but not all the time. Nor can any of us, for each time we go fishing, we learn something new. If we don't, we better take up golf or some other sane sport, for we'll never make it in the fishing game.

So, let us not pretend as Mr. Windy did that we are hotshot fishermen. Let us keep a low profile and not sound like empty barrels. Remember that proverb, for empty barrels surely do make a lot of noise.

And by this noise, ye shall know them.

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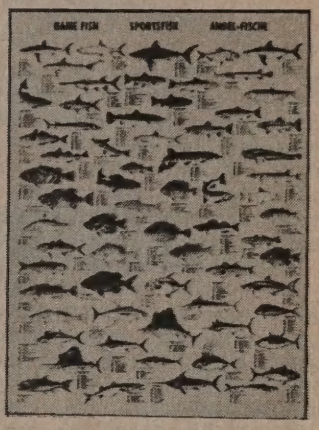

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HAVE YOU REALLY PLANNED FOR AN EMERGENCY?

Part One — *by Einar F. Grell*

In far too many instances, accident victims have planned for emergencies in advance and have responded to that planning, but have found to their great sorrow that their planning hadn't quite gone far enough. For instance, when you buy a set of protective flotation devices for your boat you're moving in the right direction. But when you stow them in a locked space; don't take them out of the plastic bag they were purchased in; don't try to get them identified for fit; don't learn how to use them yourself or don't teach your passengers how to use them—you have a large potential for trouble.

Accidents do not happen randomly. More than we would like to admit they are willed. We set up and participate in the chain of events that end in someone's or some thing's getting bent or hurt or both. For example, we continually carry the six pack aboard our vessel; we continually boat in cold water, but put off learning about hypothermia or buying a flotation coat. After an exhausting day afloat we continuely drive long distances to our homes getting a minimum amount of sleep and as a result we are tired and not alert.

Awareness of Outcomes.

Most boating accidents, no matter if they involve fatalities, injuries, or property damage can easily be prevented if the person or persons involved simply stopped to think for a minute about the possible dangers involved in their activities. Our minds respond to patterns of behavior that are far from random. By simply thinking out where a certain action or activity may eventually lead us, we have taken the first step toward programming ourselves not to go into a less desirable direction. In brief, we need to think survival.

In order to help you think survival and to better motivate you into being better prepared for an emergency, the following concepts and facts are presented for your careful consideration. They have evolved from a study of many individual cases conducted by the Boating Industry Association, the United States Coast Guard, American Red Cross and various marine bureaus associated with law enforcement on the water.

Causes for Fatalities. The person who kills himself is not a recreational boater in that he does not think of himself as such. He is a **fisherman**, a **yachtsman**, **sailor**, **canoeist**, etc.—NEVER a recreational boater. If we talk to him specifically from this point of view, he is more likely to respond to the following information in a positive way. For example, I am a fisherman of cold water. When I see the word hypothermia I read very diligently about the subject and plan beforehand what I would do if my boat broke up in the Atlantic Ocean while codfishing. My planning involves purchasing an exposure suit which I practice putting on periodically. This suit is the first thing I put aboard my boat before I go out on the briny. I carry it wth me both during warm and cold weather months. I know that cold water is any water colder than that of my body temperature. I am not a fool and don't believe in a philosophy "that it will never happen to me." This is complete planning.

Most people who die in boating accidents **do not die** during the normal "recreational" boating season; i.e., Memorial Day to Labor Day period. In fact, only 40% of all fatalities occur within this three month period. Hence, we have to very carefully find who is on the water during the other, more dangerous times of the year and what, in particular, they are doing to endanger themselves.

Coast Guard studies indicate that the "Sudden Drowning Syndrome" or disappearance within 15 minutes affects three out of every four boating drowning fatalities. This may also be true of swimming fatalities. Proof lies in further research which is now being accomplished. The primary part of this syndrome are: cold water and resulting lack of flotation and insulation devices; lack of flotation devices or inappropriate knowledge of their use. (It is interesting to note that only 7% of available personal flotation devices are employed by people falling or thrown into the water); and over-use of alcohol or similar harmful drugs.

Ten out of eleven fatalities occur in the water rather than prior to entering the water. The five major causes for death are: 1) massive heart attacks induced by cold water, usually found in older, out of condition, non-swimmers who have a manifest fear of the water, but do not wear personal flotation devices. 2) dry drowning where the victim's throat closes due to spasms of the larynx, resulting in death by suffocation. This victim is frequently found floating on the surface and if found in time may be revived. Fifteen percent of water accident fatalities fall into this category. 3) Wet drowning where the victim inhales water into his lungs and dies of asphyxiation. 4) Hypothermia or reduction of internal body temperature due to body heat loss to cold air or water. 5) Being struck by a circling boat from which the victim has been thrown.

Causes for Injuries. Injuries tend to occur to occupants of boats larger than 16' with appreciable horsepower moving at high speed. In fatalities, the victim either falls or is thrown from the boat or the boat capsizes. Injury victims in larger boats are not as likely to be thrown into the water. However, they are injured, some quite seriously, when they are thrown about inside their boat or struck while still inside their boat by another craft.

The primary causes of boating injuries are collisions with an object on or under the water, or with another boat.

Collisions are overwhelmingly caused by operator error or inattention, especially when moving at high speeds.

Operator vision impairment or increases in reaction time are involved in most injury cases.

Stressors such as vibration, glare, exposure to wind and weather, heat, noise and alcohol can, in an average boating day (which is approximately 3 hours), increase an operator's reaction time to twice that of his normal rested state. This factor does not take into account the additional fatigue induced in many boaters who trail their rigs many miles before or after a day of fishing activity.

Impairment of peripheral vision, frequently a factor in many after dark, high speed collisions, is especially prevalent due to alcohol consumption and/or operation for long periods involving high, in-boat vibration exposure.

Causes of Property Damage. Property damage is almost equally divided amongst three causes. They are: fires and explosions; collisions; and floodings. Again, large craft, longer than 16' with high powered inboard engines predominate in property damage cases. The basic reason for this is obvious, in that larger, more powerful craft are more expensive than smaller boats. One of the causes for property damage is less likely to

(Continued on page 24.)

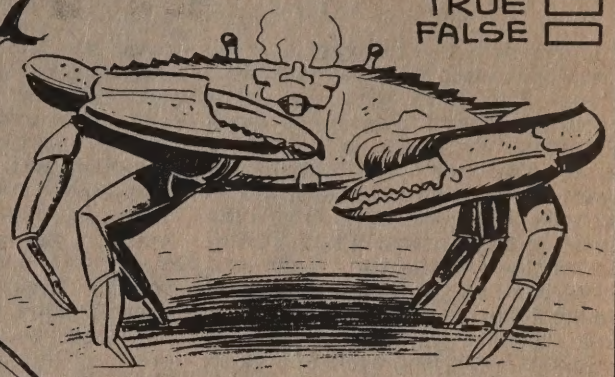
THE FISHERMAN QUIZ

(1) THERE ARE ABOUT 100 SHARK ATTACKS EACH YEAR, MOST OF WHICH ARE FATAL. TRUE ☐ FALSE ☐

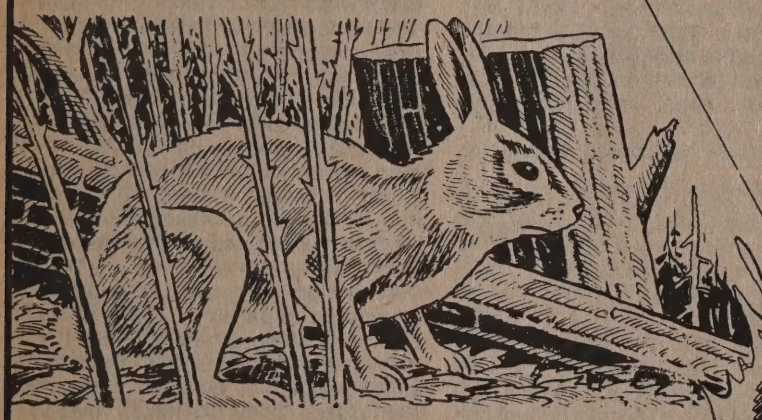
ANSWERS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE.

BY FRED GUARDINEER

(2) BLUECLAW CRABS CAUGHT IN THE SUMMER, WINTER OVER VERY WELL IN A FISH TANK, BUT THEY SHOULD BE KEPT BY THEMSELVES.
TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐



(3) HIDING PLACES USED BY RABBITS AND HARES FOR RESTING ARE CALLED_____



(4) SPINNING RODS ARE FROWNED ON BY SOME FISHERMEN, BUT THEY DEFINITELY HAVE A PLACE IN ANGLING. WHY ?

(5) THIS SQUAT UGLY LOOKING AND RAPACIOUS FISH HAS WHITE, FIRM EDIBLE MEAT IN ITS TAIL SECTION SOMETIMES ADVERTSED AS "*THE POORMAN'S LOBSTER*."

IT IS CALLED
MONKFISH ☐
ANGLER FISH ☐
GOOSE FISH ☐

(6) I AM REQUIRED TO USE STEEL SHOT WHEN DUCK HUNTING IN "MY AREA". WHAT IS WRONG WITH USING LEAD SHOT, A READER ASKS ?

1 – FALSE. WORLD WIDE DOCUMENTED ATTACKS AVERAGE 28. FATALITIES 10-20%.
2 – TRUE. THEY ARE TOO VICIOUS TO BE KEPT IN A MIXED TANK. 3 – FORMS. 4 – THEY CAN HANDLE LURES TOO HEAVY FOR A FLY ROD OR TOO LIGHT FOR CASTING RODS.
5 – ALL THREE NAMES. 6 – IN CERTAIN AREAS SPENT LEAD SHOT INGESTED BY WATERFOWL IS GROUND UP IN THE GIZZARD AND CAUSES DEATH TO THESE WATERFOWL.

Go East Young Man

by Fred Golofaro

To the dedicated, hard-core surfman, there is no place quite like Montauk. True, the Cape may be more productive, and Nantucket more charming, but there is something about "the Point" that continues to draw casters from Connecticut to as far away as Florida. At no time is the spell more magical than during October when weakfish, blues and stripers are on the move and casters' pulses quicken with the expectation of each new tide.

It wasn't very long ago that the fish which swept Montauk's shores during their journey south could be described as hordes. Now, the bass and blues come as a trickle. Despite the decline, the Point still provides the average caster with a better than average chance of enjoying some kind of action. It is a good part of the reason that one and two week vacations are spent here by many surfmen and why others travel from as far as Brooklyn, Queens and Manhattan to catch a single tide in the middle of the night before returning to work sleepless the next morning.

There is more to the Point's appeal than the fish it produces. Indeed, the attraction runs much deeper to those who count themselves among the "regulars." Steeped in beauty and tradition, its south shore beaches blend from long ribbons of sand, to boulder-strewn reaches backed by majestic cliffs at their eastern-most reach. Names like "The Transformers," "Churches," Dead Man's Cove, the Coconuts, Caswell's and Turtle Cove carry you on your trek east. Turning the corner to the north, the scene changes again as Scott's Hole, Jones Reef, False Bar, Weakfish Rock, Evan's Rock, North Bar, Clarke's Cove and Rocky Pt. blend a mixture of sand and rock into bars and coves which accommodate the vast majority of those who journey to Montauk.

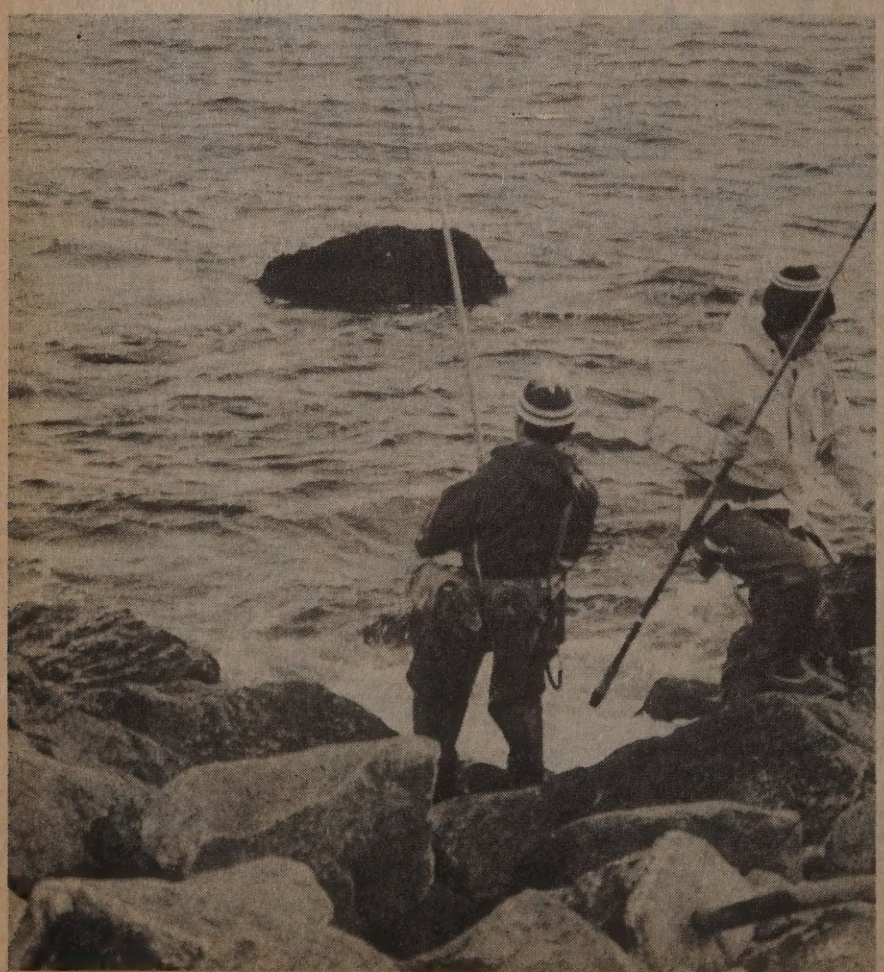
In the distance looms Shagwong Pt., once respected for the trophy stripers it offered. The memories are still there, but now Shagwong and adjacent Gin Beach are better known for their spring runs of weakfish. A few good bass are still slid upon these beaches, however, to the surprise of no one who knew Montauk back when.

Beckoning above the entire scene and standing as guardian to the most popular and productive piece of real estate is the Montauk Lighthouse. At its base are a rim of jumbled boulders where on each night's flood tide, expectant casters line up shoulder to shoulder and work darters and bottle plugs in yellow, white and mackerel finishes. So popular has this spot become in recent years, that casters line up hours before the tide is right to find a suitable rock. On crowded weekends, there are those who spend as much as six hours camped on a rock before even wetting a line.

It is here where Montauk's shining star becomes tarnished. A typical weekend scene "under the Light" is reason enough to make some veteran surfmen with fond memories of the Point swear never to return. Wherever one goes it seems, crowds breed greed and impatience. Sadly enough, it is no different under the Light. It is now becoming a regular practice for some people to leave as many as a half dozen rods scattered over the rocks with only one angler in attendance while his buddies catch some shut-eye or chow down in the comfort of a warm camper.

As one out-of-state surfman said to me a couple of weeks back, "I travel over four hours to get here, arrive hours earlier than I need to (the tide was still ebbing when he sought a rock up front), and these clowns cover the place with rods and go to sleep for six hours. As much as I like it out here, things are just getting too out of hand. You can have it." With that, he racked his rod and left in disgust without ever having wet his line. Now there are plenty of other places to catch fish at Montauk, but I can appreciate the gent's feelings. Somehow, the atmosphere just isn't the same. The place is the same, only the people have changed.

Unfortunately, no dissertation on Montauk surfcasting would be complete without acknowledging the problems created by the sport's popularity. Another key to the attitude exhibited by some hungries who could stand a lesson in patience is the God-almighty dollar. For the first time ever at Montauk, I was hit by this realization when I overheard



Daytime action "under the Light." This is classic surf fishing water. Photo by W.A. Muller.

one surfman say to another, "I wouldn't even bother fishing tonight except that I got seventy-five cents a pound for that last batch of weakfish I shipped." Now I have nothing against anyone selling their catch providing they need the money, but when the selling becomes the motivation, then something is very wrong.

Despite the negative aspects of fishing here, it seems there is still enough good about each trip to keep most coming back. It may be in the form of a shared cup of coffee, a stranger who risks life and limb to gaff your cow in the rocks, or the "hot" plug offered by the dark form standing alongside you in waist deep foam on North Bar.

If you decide that Montauk is for you, be aware that the nature of the area demands specialized equipment. "Creepers" are a necessity to fish most spots with the exception of Shagwong and along the sand beaches of the south side. For "under the Light," you will need a long-handled gaff measuring between 8' and 9' in length. Relying on a neighbor is risky business when that "forty" is being bounced around in the rocks. Standard 11½' sticks are the rule here in the fall and if you own a Crack (Luxor) 300, this is the place for it. The Penn 706 or 704 is my second choice. While some regulars prefer 20 lb. mono, I've found that 15 lb. Ande offers all of the abrasion resistance you will need and still permits good casting distance. In the line department, darters, bottle plugs, RedFins and Rebels carry the nighttime work load, while pencil poppers, poppers, and tins cover most daytime action.

The gateway to Montauk's surf lies on the south side of Main Street at the east end of town where Johnny Kronuch, Jr. stands ready to offer the same guiding hand that his father extended for so many years before retiring to Florida several years back. "Young" John regularly patrols the Point's beaches and is as good a source of information as you'll find when it comes to finding out which lure, tide or spot is producing. If fishing stinks, he'll be the first to tell you so.

Montauk's rock-studded shore is just one of its many faces.

If you plan on fishing Montauk with any amount of regularity, I suggest you join a young, but rapidly growing organization known as the **Montauk Surfcasters Association.** Formed during the 1980 season to protect the interests of surf fishermen at Montauk, the group now boasts a membership of over 300 casters and is currently engaged in a number of projects that will benefit those fishing the Point's beaches. Their mailing address is: P.O. Box 497, Montauk, N.Y. 11954.

Whatever the future holds for Montauk, I know I'll be counted among those pounding away at its mystical beaches. The attraction remains strong. I know too that most of my effort will be concentrated in November, when the crowds thin and Montauk once again becomes its old self.

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IMITATION ARTIFICIAL?

by Pat Abate

Going back about twelve or fifteen years ago, some of the sharpies fishing the bridgework in the western tip of Long Island Sound used a lead-head, plastic-tailed jig. They used it only because it caught a lot of bass. In that same period Al Reinfelder and Lou Palma, originators of the Alou Eel came out with the "bait tail." Al Reinfelder was so taken with the lure that he wrote a book about it, **Bait Tail fishing**, published by A.S. Barnes. The book is a classic for bridge fishing, if you can buy or borrow the book—do so.

I remember standing under the Montauk Light one early fall night, watching the guy on my right outfish everyone by four to one, with larger bass, to boot. Every time I looked at one of his fish, it seemed to have a few inches of eel in the corner of its mouth. I just assumed it was a rigged eel. Finally, reason overcame pride and I asked the fellow what he was using. It was a large (2 or 3 oz.) Alou Bait Tail. I asked how he was working the lure and his reply was something like, "I don't know, I'm just reeling to keep it out of the rocks. First time I ever used it." That week, I scoured the tackle shops to come up with a few, and they caught fish; occasionally they would outfish a bucktail on school bass.

For some reason, as other plastic baits and jigs become more popular, the bait tail dropped from the scene. The Garcia Corporation which had acquired the bait tail from Alou dropped it from their line. Lately I see the Alou Eel on the market and hopefully we'll see the Bait Tail return.

If you can't find a Bait Tail, don't despair. You can turn out your own of the basement or kitchen sink variety. Not being the patient type, I sought to improvise. I had plenty of lead-heads but no plastic tails. Eels are plentiful where I'm now living so I took what seemed to be the best alternative to plastic: the real eel. The outcome was a lure that was a cross between a lead-headed jig and a rigged eel. It combines the smell and feel of an eel and the weight of a jig to get deep where the bass lie. I wonder if this lure was the predecessor of the plastic bait tail? We could have a "what came first, the chicken or the egg?" situation here.

I call my jig the eel tail since I don't want to step on anyone's trade name. It's fairly simple to make; the only special item required is a piece of tubing to use as a de-boner. Other than that, making an eel tail takes less than half the time it takes to make up a rigged eel. Storing an eel tail takes a little more care than storage of the plastic tailed variety. Occasionally I've forgotten one in the pocket of my foul-weather jacket or plug bag. After two or three days, the lure has a way of reminding you where you left it. I keep my eel tails in a plastic bag; moist but no liquid with a little bit of Kosher salt. In-between trips, I store the lures in my freezer.

The eel tail is worked somewhat like a bucktail. When casting, keep it near the bottom and lift it with gentle sweeps of your rod, avoid erratic jigging. Make your casts up-current and try to have the lure on the bottom as your line becomes perpendicular to you and the current. If you're jigging up and down, such as stemming the tide or standing on a bridge, try the "lift your jig as soon as it touches bottom and repeat" method, popularized at the Montauk Rips with diamond jigs. The eel tail catches fish, but I really don't know if it's better than the artificial. It does give the user a high confidence level that everything in the lure is working—the weight, smell, and the feel.

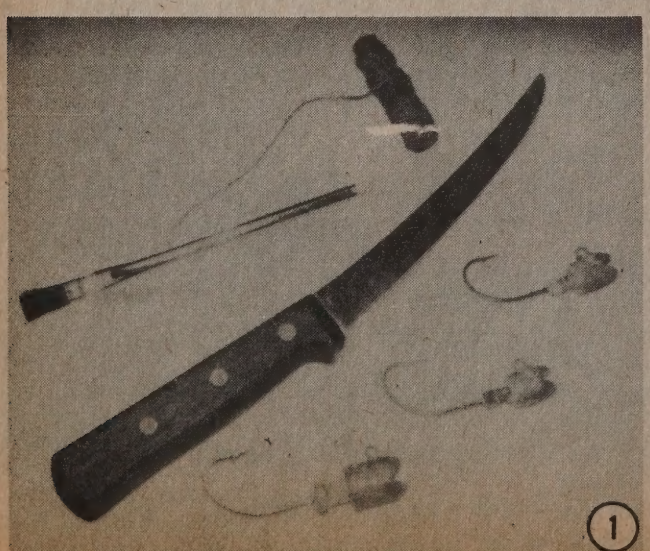
PHOTO 1: Here are the tools needed; the knife is self-explanatory. The leadheads can be from 1/2 oz. to whatever you need; they should have a flared neck or ridge for secure tying. The thread is heavy WAXED linen. It can be polyester or even dental floss, but make sure it's waxed. The brush, if you cut the bristles from a fifteen cent acid brush, you have a cheap de-boner.

PHOTO 2: These eels range from 9" to 16" depending on your needs. Of course, they should be fresh, dead and skinny.

PHOTO 3: The eel should be cut approximately 1/2 inch behind the anal vent.

PHOTO 4: Lay the leadhead next to the eel or what's left of it. Determine what portion of the hook shank will be inside the eel. The backbone will be removed to accommodate the straight portion of the hook shank.

PHOTO 5: Use the de-boner to cut around the backbone as deep as required to accommodate the hook. You may want to sharpen the edges of the tubing to make the cutting easier. Once the bone is cut around you may have to twist it to remove it.



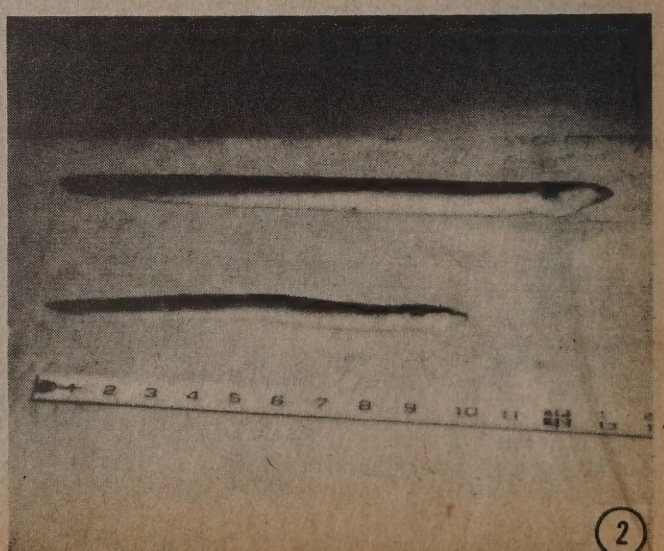


PHOTO 6: Insert the hook, breaking through the center of the back. Notice the section of removed backbone.

PHOTO 7: Tie off the eel-tail onto the leadhead securely and trim the excess.

PHOTO 8: The finished products. (Top) - weighs 3½ oz. for fast tides and breachways. (Middle) - The imitation or original depending upon your viewpoint. The Alou 2 oz. Bait-tail. (Bottom) - Weighs 1½ oz. Good general purpose size for jetties slower tides.

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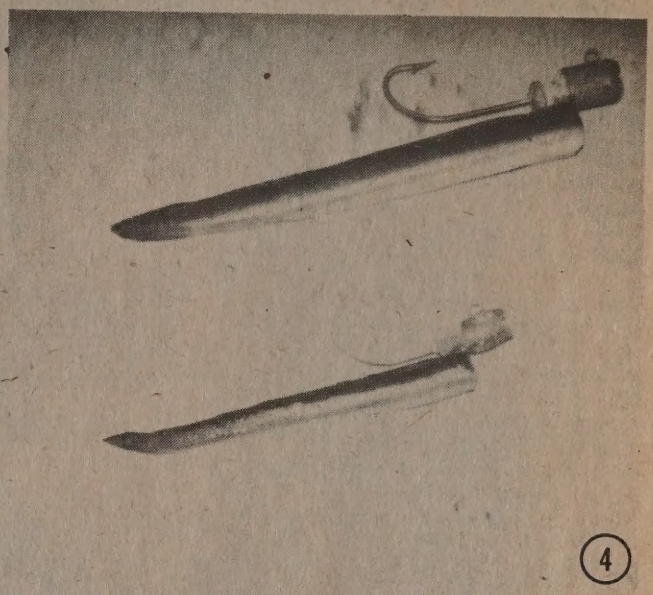

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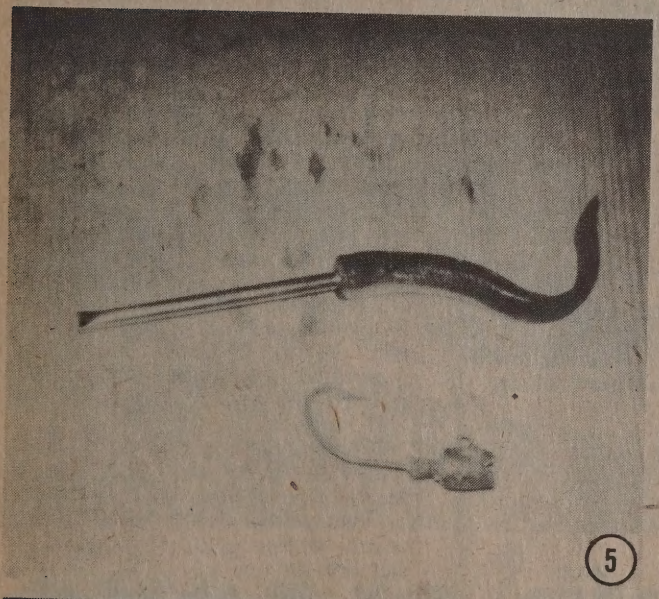

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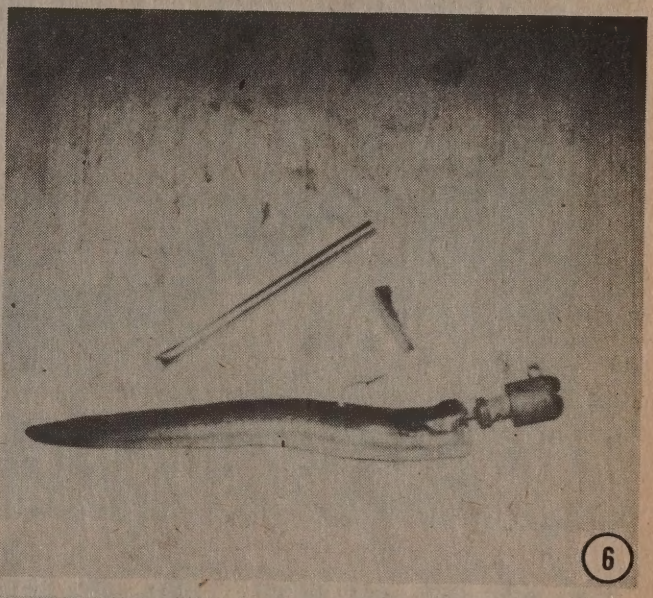

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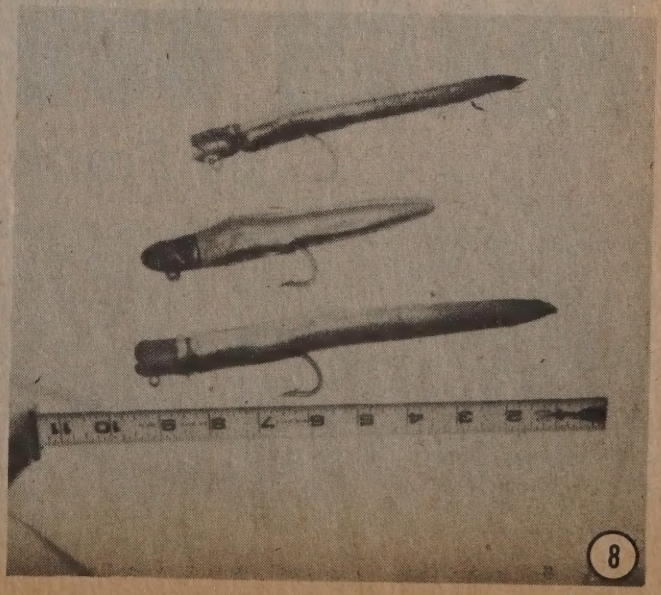

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BEACH BOUND BLACKS

by Frank Berrafato

Casting for blackfish from the shores of Long Island Sound represents a favorite method of angling for this writer during October and into November. Many north shore beaches provide excellent fishing for tautogs at this time. Among them are Centre Island Reef (Bayville), Cedar Beach (near Mt. Sinai Harbor), Rocky Point and Wading River. On the North Fork, I have found the rocky shore lines of Greenport and Orient Point Park to be quite productive as well.

It is interesting to note that the early 1960s was a very poor time for blackfish along the north shore, and it was as this same time that there was a population explosion of starfish that soon destroyed the local shellfish. When the starfish gradually disappeared in the late 1960s, the shellfish population increased, and blackfishing improved—with many large fish reported. Other factors which can cause fluctuations in abundance of blackfish are the presence or absence of eelgrass in which the baby blackfish hide, and extreme water temperatures that can cause a poor spawning season by destroying the eggs or killing the fry later.

The blackfish (known as tautog in New England) is characterized by a blunt snout, highly arched head, and thick, tough lips. The eyes are fair size, and they are located quite high in the head. The mouth cavity contains two sets of teeth. One set of teeth, which are strong and conical in shape, are in the very front of the mouth, rooted in the upper and lower jaws. The second set is located in the back, near the throat, and these teeth, which are flat-surfaced and round, are

used to crush and grind food. In his natural surroundings, this double set of teeth comes in handy: he rips mussels, barnacles, and other shelled life which adhere to the rocks, wrecks, and other submerged objects. The grinding teeth then crush the shells and reduce the food until it is ready to swallow and digest.

At Rocky Point, a particular stretch of beach is characterized by high cliffs, dotted with small summer houses. The beach itself is pebble mixed with sand, which changes into mud and small rocks the further out you go. Large boulders which are exposed during the low tidal stage quickly disappear as the tide becomes higher. The angler should make it a point to visit the area at low tide and make a mental note of the large boulders, rocks, and other obstructions which will soon become the feeding areas for blackfish. As the water continues to move up the beach, the fish move in closer to the shore line and within reach of casters. It is possible to catch fish when the tide is low, provided that you can wade out and cast into some deep water.

Fishing in shallow water from a beach requires a different technique in setting the hook in the fish than when fishing in deep water from a boat. In deep water, a blackfish will start eating the bait on the spot and he will signal a series of sharp tugs as he takes the bait in his mouth and begins to crush it with those back teeth. This is the time to set the hook hard, before he feels the hook and spits it out. When fishing in shallow water, the procedure is different. Here, a blackfish will usually pick the bait up and start moving away with it. Experienced anglers will allow the fish to take several feet of line before setting the hook. In carrying out this maneuver, however, it is best not to exert pressure as the fish is moving away since the fish will often react by dropping the bait before it passes down to the second set of teeth.

Sandworms, clams, fiddler crabs and green crabs are among the top baits for blackfish, but they show definite preferences for certain baits at different times of the year. Experienced fishermen will point out that in the early spring, blackfish prefer the soft baits: sandworms and clams. As the season progresses, fiddler crabs take most of the fish, but the larger blackfish are caught on the green crabs. I have found crabs to be more productive in the eastern part of Long Island Sound, out by Greenport. In areas such as Rocky Point or Cedar Beach, sandworms catch most of the fish, regardless of the season. Sandworms will draw other fish as well, particularly flounders and porgies. By using fiddler crabs or green crabs the angler can concentrate more on blackfish. Only the pesty bergall will try to steal the bait.

Tackle should be kept on the simple side, but the rod should have enough backbone to stop a big blackfish from hanging up your terminal rig in the rocks. Sinkers should be heavy enough to keep the bait down since blackfish feed on the bottom or just a few inches above it. Most anglers use two hooks; usually one hook tied onto the leader of the first one. The Virginia pattern is specifically made for blackfish: short point, heavy diameter wire and very difficult to bend. But these hooks have a drawback in that they are tough to sharpen, and blackfish hooks must be kept needle sharp to penetrate the mouth of the fish. As a result, many anglers use the Sproat hooks, which are easy to sharpen, but can bend under the pressure of a large fish. Hook selection is important in blackfishing; cheaper quality hooks, rusty hooks, or hooks meant for smaller type fish, will not do the job and usually result in many lost fish.

Blackfish are popular among anglers who fish the rocky beaches on the North Shore, and the reasons for their popularity are quite simple. They are fairly reliable and they are a good eating fish. Blackfish grown to an attractive size (many fish over 6 lbs. are caught each year), and these fish can give a good account for themselves. As a result, blackfish have their own steady following. A dedicated group of shore anglers who will settle for nothing less than blackfish on the rocks.

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Montauk Report

by Stu Miller

Captain Richie Rade of the **Marlin Fleet** tells us that very good porgy fishing continues everyday with the boat now working Block Island waters. Catches are running from 50-75 fish a man, from medium to large. Blacks and cod mixed in along with a few flounder. The **Marlin IV** also had a 10 lb. pollack Sunday. The **Marlin V** has been having bluefish high hooks in the 30s to 40s all week long. Thursday a 34 lb. striper and a 12 lb. striper were also caught. A super catch Friday was a 50 lb. striper for Massapequa angler Dennis Couuovs. All these blues and bass have been diamond jigged. The Marlin V is running stripers and blues everyday as a combination trip. See ad for details.

Captain Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Fleet** tells of continued good porgy fishing at Block Island, fish mostly jumbos. With Coxes Ledge cod being erratic, the cod boat is working Block Island waters for these fish. Cod are running 8-12 lbs. with pool fish running in the 30s. Big bluefish are being taken as incidental catches, all on either bait or on jigs. The night bluefishing remains tremendous at Cartwright on bait. The final Nantucket wreck trip has been re-scheduled for Sunday night, October 25. See add and call quickly if interested.

Captain John DeMaio of the charter boat **Vivienne** called Monday morning to say he had just gotten his charter back to the dock with 7 stripers to 42 lbs. and 7 weakfish to 12 lbs. The party also was put into monster bluefish up to 22 lbs., all on diamond jigs.

Twelve-year-old Allan Johnson of Sound Beach, NY, proudly displays striper that won a trophy for him in last weekend's Annual Full Moon Bass Tournament at the Montauk Marine Basin. His bass was 29½ lbs. In addition to a trophy for winning the junior division, Allan won a special award of a striper fishing session aboard the "Rainbow II" under the supervision of Capt. Bob Rochetta, holder of the world's record rod and reel striped bass title.

Captain Joe McBride of the charter boat **My Mate** reports Saturday's trip for Tom Dooley and family had a good catch of blues at Southwest Ledge, fish 15-18 lbs. on trolled umbrellas. Sunday's bass trip for Paul Calamini saw some small bass taken on the south side on umbrellas.

Charter boat **Barracuda** advises that he has several choice bass dates available, but they are going rapidly.

Captain Mike of the charter boat **Montauk** called to say bass fishing has been excellent. His best day this week was 16 stripers up to 29 lbs. There are still a lot of big blues around also going up to 22 lbs. On one trip he also had 2, 38 lb. bass. All this was taken on trolled umbrellas off the Point.

Captain Buddy Dorman's 6-man limit open boat **Waxed** has been fishing Montauk's rips and rock piles. Bud says Tony Napoleon of Manhattan leads with 2 bass to 40 lbs. Other bass were landed and many weakfish were taken up to 11 lbs. Bud says all fish were caught on Ava jigs.

Charter boat **Julie III** fished Martin Reid and Joe Davis Saturday and scored with 48 big blues from 10-18 lbs. on herring bait at Outer Cartwright.

Subscriber Lou Magman telephoned to say that on Saturday he and Joe and Mike Murphy of Grady and Co., NYC fishing aboard the **King Wayne** had 90 blues to 22 lbs. on bait at Outer Cartwright. Lou says there were twice as many doggies as blues.

Captain Phil Lewis of the charter boat **Adios** called to report striped bass fishing has improved this week with catches of 8-15 fish per half day trip. Dr. Mike Zybel totalled 23 bass

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Ronnie Madonia with a 56 lb. hake and a 27 lb. pollack and Tom Ostrowski with 57 lb. cod. THey were part of a big catch made during a two day George's Bank trip aboard the "Viking Starship."

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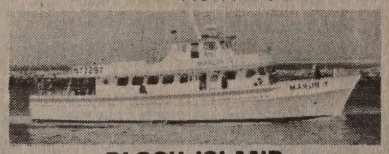

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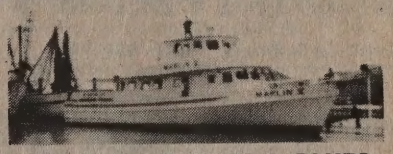

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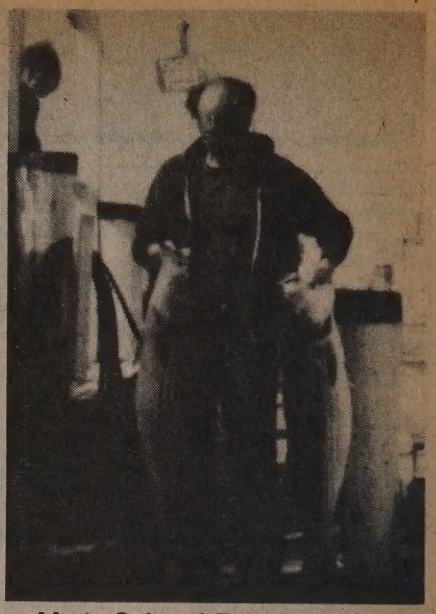

Marty Quint of Freeport with a pair of nice bass taken at Montauk on the "Adios."

fishing Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. Umbrellas accounted for fish 6-30 lbs. Thursday morning a 35 lber. was taken by John McGloin's party from Bergenfield, NJ. Bass fishing should improve even more once the tides ease up.

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EMERGENCY PLANNING

(Continued from page 14.)

involve operator error as such. But, long standing failure to inspect the craft on a routine basis can be laid upon the operator or owner as a primary contributing factor.

Fires and explosions almost wholly involve boats with inboard engines and/or with installed fuel spaces that are covered. Leaks around fuel tanks and pipelines or tubing, due to vibration, poor maintenance, corrosion and age of the vessel, cause fires and explosions. Breakdowns of electrical insulation in fuel storage spaces also contribute.

Most explosions occur during or immediately after fueling, when gasoline vapors are most likely to be trapped and accumulated in spaces exposed to spark producing equipment.

The primary cause of collisions, operator error, has been explained previously. In addition to visual impairment at high speed, larger vessels may have structural or design aspects which tend to hide or obscure areas from the operator's view. For instance, the view immediately forward of the bow of larger cabin cruisers is frequently obscured during the time the hull comes up to plane or even during normal cruising operations.

Flooding normally occurs as the result of a vessel's being holed by a collision or by failure of a through hull fitting located below the waterline. The latter occurs frequently through failure of responsible persons to thoroughly and periodically check all through-hull fittings, especially on larger craft which have numerous compartments, voids and other below deck spaces.

South Shore Report

by Fred Golofaro

HAMPTON BAYS

John Mangino, speaking from **Corr's Fishing Station** said that flounder fishing held up pretty well this week on the Basket Grounds, off of the Coast Guard Station and on both side of the Ponqugue Bridge. On Saturday, Don Connolly and George Fillios returned with 48 flatties after a three hour stint on the bay. Sunday saw Robert Bastiensen, Ray Gamble and Bill Carty take 65 flounder near the Coast Guard Station. Sand worms, dyed clams and mussel chum have been the ticket.

MORICHES BAY

From **Skidmore's Fishing Station**, Jim DeVito sais that last week's moon slowed the flounder action in the area but by Saturday, things appeared to be getting back to normal. Catches Saturday ranged from 40 to 50 fish per boat with Haven's Point producing the flood and the Coast Guard Station on the EBB. Smaller fish, but more of them in the canal at buoy 52. Matt and John Viol had 52 flatties on Saturday at Haven Point while Eli

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Bob Keenan boated this 51 lb. white marlin at Montauk aboard Captain Zac Grossman's "Mako Express."

Pepper and his sister opted for quantity and fished the canal. They wound up with 81 fish. The best bait has been bloodworms and corn on mussel chum makes a difference. Crabbing in the bay remains very good with rings working best between buoys 43 and 44.

Good flounder action over the weekend with boats returning with from 30 to 70 fish apiece. So reported Gary of the **Silly Lilly Fishing Station.** Best catches came from Hart's Cove where most fish were in the 1 to 2 lb. range. Craig and Pete Hutnick caught 68 flounder on Saturday while Phil Bertone and Bill DeFabio totalled 40 on Sunday. Fish are being taken on both tides with blood worms and mussel on corn chum.

At **L & M Marine,** Larry reported that the canal is the place for big numbers while the bay is holding the quality fish. Best bay spots have been Haven's Point and Hart's Cove. Jim Burke, Alex Walk and Walter Hopp fished Hart's Cove Friday and took 49 big flounder. Many were in the 1½ to 2 lb. range. On Saturday, Barry Cohen, Larry Solomon and Mike Burke worked the buoy 54 area in the canal for 97 keepers between ½ and 1½ lbs.

MASTIC BEACH

Harry at **Capt. Andy's Fishing Station** said that flounder and crabs are keeping everyone happy between buoy 17 and the bridge. Flounder catches have been averaging around 2 dozen per man with most of the fish around the 1 lb. mark. Worms, clam and mussel chum are producing the best results. Jim Johnson topped his catch of 30 flatties during the week with a 2¾ lber. Catches of crabs run between 50 and 100 per boat with traps working best.

OAKDALE

Dave Canale of **J & R Sport Center** told me that Larry Oehler stopped by with anothe 24 lb. bass taken at Montauk on an eel. He had a similiar fish last week. He noted that there have been some flounder starting to show off Heckscher and fish continue to be taken in the Sore Thumb Pocket although flounder fishing in general was slow this week. Boatmen have been loading up with big blues on bait and jigs in 100 feet of water south of the Inlet. One customer had 600 lbs. of choppers to 18 lbs. during the week.

BAY SHORE

Speaking from **Smokey's Bait & Tackle,** Carl Miller said that the best flounder scores are coming from the state channel with worms, clams and clam chum working best. Some blacks still on the reef at Kismet and blues and albacore outside the inlet on umbrellas and jigs. Big blues on bait and jigs south of the Inlet in 100 feet

A load of "gorilla" blues caught on the charter boat "King Wayne" at Cartwright by the Reelers Fishing Club.

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Tony Daddino, Tom and Don Marturano and Tim O'Keefe with a 44 lb. white marlin taken at Montauk on the charter boat "Nostalgia II."

NITE–DAY FISHFINDER & LORAN OCEAN–BAY

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CAPTREE

Capt. Stan Joseph of the **Cpat. Joseph** spoke of fair flounder fishing in the state channel with most flatties in the ½ to ¾ lb. class. Worms and clams have both been effective. Of the bluefishing, the skipper described the action as very good south of the Inlet. Lots of 10 to 15 lb. class fish on diamond jigs.

The **Capt. Bob Joseph,** with Capt. Charlie Kennedy at the wheel, has been working the ocean reef and wrecks for blackfish. Saturday was slow due to a big heave, but Sunday's fishing was good. Bob Pace and his wife Kitty were high-hook with 57 tautog to 7½ lbs.

On the open boat the **Capt. Rod,** some good flounder fishing early in the week was slowed towards the weekend by strong moon tides. Capt. Rod said that fish are beginning to move onto the flats where clammers have been making some nice scores. He will begin fishing Heckscher this

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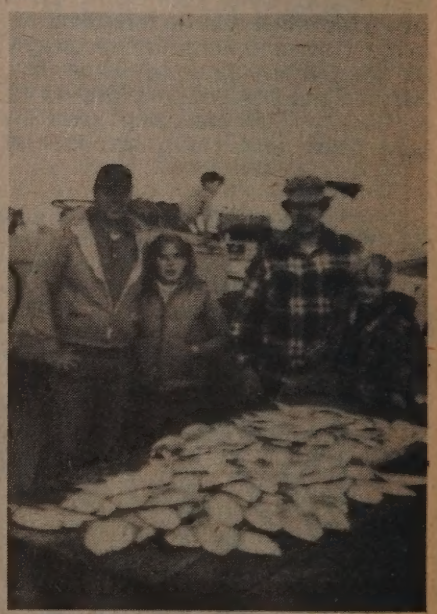
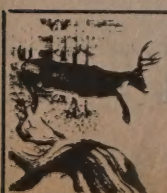


This fine catch of 97 flounder was made at buoy 54 in Moriches Bay by Chris and Debbie Loffredo and Bill and Dick Seidel. They left from L&M Marine Fishing Station.

TAXIDERMY



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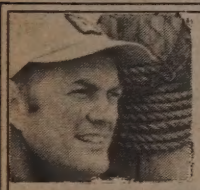

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Stan Dowling and his son made this haul of sea bass, flounder, porgies and blowfish near buoy 42 in Moriches Bay. They used worms and squid and left from Seatuck Cove Fishing Station.

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week.

At the **Bait Station**, Noel echoed skipper's reports of good bluefishing and fair flounder action this week. He added that fishermen on the Jones Beach Piers have been doing well with flounder on worms. Flatties are also being taken from the Robert Moses Piers.

Captain Gordan Roman of the **Captree Queen** reported a slow week with the flounder. He expects the current cold snap will spur renewed activity. He has been working the state channel between Cedar and Gilgo with worms and clams. Fish have been mixed in size and up to 1½ lbs. Gordon labeled the night bluefishing south of the Inlet in 110 feet of water as "phenomenal". Twelve to twenty fares have been accounting for anywhere from 250 to 500 fish each trip. Eight to eighteen lb. choppers make up the bulk of the catch with most being taken on bait. The boat will continue on the night bluefish run this weekend, weather permitting. Call to be sure.

Chuck Van Hoesen and Mark Elf took this mess of flounder at buoy 44 on worms and mussel chum. Photo courtesy of Skidmore's Fishing Station.

BABYLON

"Not bad," said Ski Kochanski of the current state of flounder action. Fish are on the flats off of Good Sam and Babylon as well as in the State Channel and the Sore Thumb Pocket. Ski had 8 nice fish in an hour's time on the flats Saturday. Pete Mercier of the **Stormy Pertel** managed a lone 34 lb. striper in the inlet on Saturday. Plenty of big blues are camped south of the inlet in 90 to 100 feet of water. 6 to 10 oz. diamond jigs have been the ticket.

LINDENHURST

From **Lindenhurst Bait And Tackle,** Mike reported that flounder fishing has been decent in the State Channel at Gilgo, the Amity Cut, and Massapequa Cove. Best catches are being made on worms with mussel or clam chum. George Perrola fished the Jones Beach Piers on Saturday and took 20 flounder. Same day, Mark Sheshedian worked the Fire Island Ocean Reef to the tune of 13 sea bass, 20 blackfish and one bluefish.

This group, headed by Bob Goelz, wound up with a pile of small blues after a charter aboard the Babylon boat "Luci II."

SEAFORD

Art, of **Capt. Eddie's Fishing Station,** described a catch of 55 flounder made in Massapequa Cove by Rich Frye and Richie Eastland on Friday. They used worms and clam cum. On Saturday, John Ryan used live bunker to take weaks of 7½ to 10 lbs. and a 13 lb. blue in the bay.

At **Pop's Fishing Station,** John labeled the flatfishing picky, but added that everyone managed some fish. He felt that strong moon tides hurt the week's action. Best catches have come from Massapequa Cove and the 1st bridge on the flood and from buoy 13 on the ebb. John Duenges and 3 friend used worms and mussel chum to take 40 flatties of Saturday. The most excitement over the weekend was caused by station

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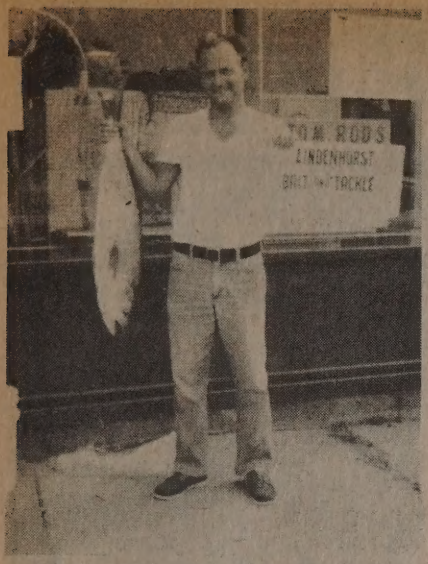

Al Speehr used a jelly worm to catch this 12¾ lb. weak near the Fire Island lighthouse. It was weighed at Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle.

regulars John McNulty and his buddy Dennis who imported a 51 lb. striper from Montauk to Pop's where it drew ooh's and aah's from the station's customers.

Capt. Brian of the **Chinco II** reported flounder slow this week due to the moon tides. Fishing is on the upswing again however, and some fares managed catches in the twenties. Pool fish are usually in the 2 lb. class. The skipper has been fishing locally with both clams and worms.

BELLMORE

Scott at **Merrick Tackle** knew of some big bass taken in the bay on bunker. Carl Humphreys had one of the better ones, a 41½ lber. Flounder fishing has been generally good, although fish have been smallish. Blacks still at the bridges, but they too are on the small side.

New York Bight Report

by Stu Miller

FREEPORT

Your reporter while fishing in Sunday's strong wind amongst Merrick's back creeks, had his gold Long Island Fisherman cap blown off. A reward is being offered for whoever finds the cap which was last seen being carried by a strong flooding tide and south wind north towards Merrick Bay. A free 1 year subscription to LIF goes to whoever finds the hat and calls me at 868-2391.

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FISH TALK:

(Continued from page 8.)

plenty of large sea bass in the Sound. As for the sand eels, sea bass will eat anything that they can catch. They seem to prefer crabs and lobsters and they like squid too. Maybe that's why nature gave them such a big mouth. Where sand eels are plentiful they find easy pickings and will fill up on the skinny bait. Certainly sea bass are quick enough to catch sand eels. In the last few years we have had a lot of reports from flounder fishermen in certain areas telling us that they have caught large flounders loaded with sand eels. Flounders are quick but they aren't known as fast predators.

Thus, if flounders can get the sand eels, then sea bass should have no trouble at all. In another part of your letter you expressed surprise that you caught the fish on a sand bottom. You are correct in thinking that sea bass prefer rocky bottoms, but they will wander onto mud and sand bottoms if the feeding is good and the sea bass large enough not to be too concerned about being eaten. There are plenty of rocks at Cranes Neck area and that's probably where the fish came from.

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George and Jonathan Dale show the 4¾ lb. blackfish they caught on a green crab at Kismet. Photo courtesy of Peppy's Bait and Tackle.

The **Bluefin Fleet** reports the best bluefishing so far this year in both quantity and quality, blues up to 19 lbs. High hooks are ranging in the mid-30s with fish from 10-19 lbs. Biggest fish of last week was caught by Anthony Tesorero of Holy Cross High School, Flushing (19 lbs.). Runner up was Brooklyn angler Michael Sitro of Clancy-Cullen Storage Co. with an 18 lb. 15 oz. alligator. This was all on jigs fishing 20SE of Jones. On another trip, the Rockville Centre fire dept. last Saturday also loaded up on blues. A triop for Hanover Bank for blackfish saw pool honors go to Stan Umowski with a 6 lb. 15 oz. black. Several sea bass were also taken to 4 lbs. 8 oz. Flounders catches built on the weekend, best on a flooding tide, worm and red clam. Double headers were not uncommon. Bluefishing remains very strong with fish 5-14 lbs. caught to the SE on Ava 47s with or without tails. Every day is consistent. Blues being fished in 120' of water about one hour short of Patchogue. Sunday's charter for High Hook Fishing Club, Queens Village, had over 300 blues in just 3 hours. Walt Hanasko and crew with guest Alfred Eichner of Hawaii had 35 blues. Jackson Heights anglers were rewarded with a good catch of sea bass and blacks fishing local wrecks, averaging 15 fish a man.

The staff from Hook Line and Sinker enjoyed a big catch of blues up to 17 lbs. 9 oz. aboard the **Capt. Al** last Sat. night. This was on bait at Cholera.

Captain Al reports fantastic bluefishing all weekend long even in Sunday's high winds. Fish from 4-18 lbs. continue to be jigged up at some of the skipper's favorite offshore wrecks. The numbers are excellent

with high hook of the week being 14 big choppers.

The **Starstream II** had good blackfishing on Friday and Saturday with a 9 lber. being hoisted aboard Saturday. On the regular Wednesday cod trip, Larry Mccall scored with a 61 lb. cod and a 48 lb. cod. Butch Bento and girl friend boasted of 3 cod, weighing 49 lbs. 15 oz., 50 lbs. and 52 lbs. Now that's codfishing in any man's language. A 35 lb. pollack was the reward for Reuben Largo of Long Beach. The boat will be making these offshore cod trips every Wednesday, weather permitting, hitting some pet wrecks. Also caught Wednesday was a 15 lb. cusk.

Charter boat **Shalidon** last Saturday had a 200 lb. mako taken on a mackerel fishing SE of Jones in 115' of water for Allen Butcher, Cornwell, NY. Allan also had a 150 lb. bluefin tuna.

Sea Isle Sports tells of good flounder fishing mainly in Merrick Bay on worm and clam, fish up to 1¼ lbs. Blackfish hot and heavy at all the bridges with the Rota wreck definitely the hottest of hotspots. A customer by the name of Ed has gone out several days this past week and taken 50-100 blackfish a day on fiddlers and green crabs. Try working from the Coast Guard to the Meadowbrook bridge with live bunker fished on the bottom for big weaks.

Captain Paul Schmidt of the **Aloma II** is now switching over to flounders. See ad for details.

Freeport Boatmen's Association reports that the **Super Spray II** on Sunday's cod wreck trip, LOADED UP on cod with all passengers getting fish. A 45 lber. took the pool. High hook was 10 fish. Just cod were caught and even though the winds howled close to shore, the wind did

Tony LaRocco, Walter Fatscher and Walt Jr. with fluke to 6½ lbs. and a 7 lb. weak taken on the Tin Can Grounds. Photo courtesy of Skippy's Bait & Tackle.

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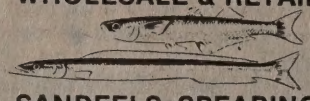

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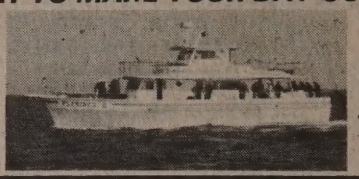

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not have that much bad effect that far off the beach. The boat will be cod wreck fishing every Saturday and Sunday, aside from its weekday sea bass, porgy and black trips. See ad for details. The SS IIs Wednesday tuna trip was rewarded with an 85 lb. bluefin tuna plus a number of other hookups at the Mud Hole. The rest of the Association boats have been bailing big blues 20 miles SE of Jones Inlet. It's all been on diamond jigs. Doggies are starting to move in.

Larry Izzo at **Mako Marina** tells us that Sunday the Debra and Captain Mike Miller's charter boat **Apus** both had blues coming at Cholera but had to come back and wrap up with flounders on the inside due to the high winds and rough seas. Overall, flounders were spotty this weekend in the bay.

Charter boat **Nancy** on October 11 fished Moss' Gun and Tackle Exchange of Stamford, Conn. An 18 lb. 4 oz. blue was caught by Sally Shepard of Stratford on a Shakespeare Ugly Stik and 1984 Shakespeare Bait caster and 10 lb. test Sigma mono. This fish has been officially entered for womens IGFA 12 lb. class world record. Acting as mate and guide was Greg Niseto of Shakespeare. The party totalled 20 blues from 12-18½ lbs. fishing Cholera on bait and chum. Monday's trip for John Mosier of Oceanside and party had blues from 11-18½ lbs. on bait on the bottom and on top. Sunday's trip for Bob Verger and Pete Silverstein pulled blues to 16 lbs. and also finished the day with flounders on the inside. During the week Tony Fiori and buddy fishing bloods and red clams took 137 flounders in Merrick Bay.

BALDWIN

Mike at **Arthur Street Fishing Station** says that the mouth of Swift Creek has been producing 2-3 big weakfish a day up to 13¼ lbs. for Ed Reinisch who was fishing live bunker on the bottom in the morning hours. Ed is utilizing a sliding egg sinker and a 3 ft leader. Lots of small blues off the needle, fish up to 5 lbs. for trollers. Decent flounder fishing continues in Scow Creek, the hole at Boces and buoy 17. Blacks at the Rota wreck to 6 lbs. in quantity. A big job was done there by Mike Sullivan and crews.

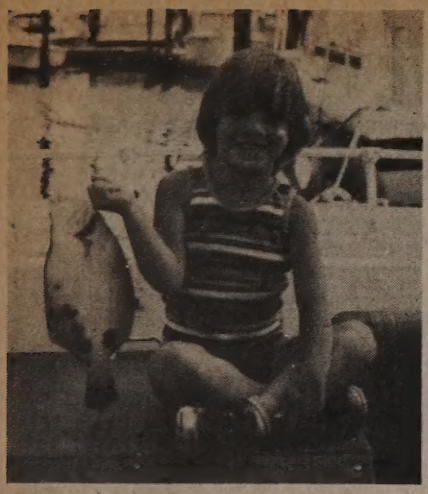
This big tuna was taken at the Mud Hole on the Strike II and weighed at Stella Maris Fishing Station. The crew consisted of Sue and Noel Inzerelli, John Stoma, Don Ambrico and John Lee.

POINT LOOKOUT

Tom at **Scotty's Fishing Station** says there are plenty of flounders up to 3 lbs. at the drain at middle Bay with incoming water best and chum a big assist. Blackfish at the bridges (Meadowbrook best). Tom's rental boats are bringing back 20-40 blacks a boat from 1½-5 lbs. Offshore good bluefishing is being had from the Inlet out to 90' of water, all methods. West Bar has seen wireliners taking stripers and blues. Still some sea bass at buoys 16-18, in Sloop Channel and Long Creek.

ISLAND PARK

Captain Clem of the **Commodore**



Four-and-a-half-year-old Anthony Gunekel with a 2½ lb. fluke he caught on the family boat Little Joe in Jones Inlet.

tells of a good Saturday's floundering with 38 being high hook for the day on mixed fish. Sunday was more of a pick with the strong tides, catches averaging 15-20 flatties a man. Reynolds channel has been the best areas this week and Clem says the main body of sea bass are gone from Reynolds channel.

Beckman's Tackle in Lynbrook reports good flounder catches this pas week with best catches coming from Reynolds and Hog Channels. These fish are mixed sizes and incoming has been best. Very good blackfishing continues at the bridges, jetties, T and Rota Wrecks on fiddlers and green carbs. Excellent bluefish catches made close in to the Beach both Saturday and Sunday off the Rockaways. Both surfcasters and boats working close in could cast to and catch 12-16 lb. choppers.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Reynolds Reef Fishing Station says blackfish still being caught at the bridge and Silver Point jetty and that weather permitting stripers and weaks can be caught on umbrellas at the Tin Can. Flounder off the Magnolia piers on worms, also in the creeks off Woodmere Bay.

LONG BEACH

Long Beach Sports Marina reports fair weakfishing on bait at the construction dock and Jones inlet. Mark Ebert had 15 weaks up to 14 lbs. fishing during the day doing this with live bunker. Weakfish also a good item at the Tin Can grounds on S&G Tiger Tails. Blues in 30 ft. of water off Lido on umbrellas, spoons and single tubes. Also at the Tin Can swimming along with bass hitting Tiger Tails. Flounders excellent between the cement block and railroad trestle. Flatties seemed a little smaller this week, averaging 1 lb. on worms and lots of chum. Blacks still excellent at the bridges, the gong buoy and

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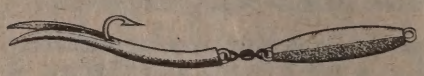

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jetties. Donald Lopez, age 80, had 18 blacks up to 4 lbs. fishing a bamboo pole and fiddlers.

HOWARD BEACH

Captain Andy of the **Josie D II** on Sunday fished Mike Shore and family and in 4 hours filled half of a 5 gal. pail full of flounder with 24 fish for Mrs. Shore alone. Action was the railroad trestle in Broad Channel with fish 3/4 to 1½ lbs. on sand worms, bloods and chum. Best was at low slack and beginning of the flood.

JAMAICA BAY

Cross Bay Bait and Tackle reports blacks and flounders being picked away at from both north and south channel bridges and catches are expected to be a lot better when the wind stops.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Captain Tom of the **Pilot II**, the bay's blackfish expert tells of excellent blackfishing all week along the New Jersey shore line. On Saturday, Howard Gordon a regular scored with a 9 lb. black and 35 other blackfish. A few sea bass were also taken. THis was all on green crabs. Tom called it "super fishing."

The **Flamingo III** enjoyed a good weekend of bluefishing, taking medium to large blues on diamond jigs fishing to the south off NJ.

Mike's Tackle Shop reports excellent bluefishing for boats running to the Slew which is roughly 6 miles SE of the BA buoy. Blues are running 8-22 lbs. Mixed sizes of blackfish off Jersey and the Rockaways with some sea bass mixed in. Bass at the Tin Can on bait tails and trolled umbrellas with a Clark spoon trailer. Lots of flounders in Jamaica Bay and off the Sheepshead Piers, fish 3/4 to 1 lb.

STATEN ISLAND

Santo's Sport Shop reports blues and weaks still belting live snappers and live bunkers off Oakwood. Weaks still in the 12 lb. category and blues ranging up to 15 lbs. A few stripers still being picked at Penny Beach. The lighthouse areas are producing blackfish on fiddlers and greens and the Stapleton Piers remain crabby.

North Shore Report

by Martin Garrell

NEW ROCHELLE

John Palmieri at **John's Gun And Tackle** said that night trollers were doing a job on bass with plain worms, trolled some 75 feet behind the boats. Fish ran from schoolies up to teens. Blackfishing was better now with fiddler and green crabs while flounder action on fish to 1 lb. had also improved. Some bluefish were still working on the bunkers in the harbors.

CITY ISLAND

Jack Rumph at **Jack's Bait & Tackle** spoke of good blackfishing on Saturday around Pea Island in some 18 feet of water. Execution Light and Huckleberry Island were also good. Later on, the fish will be moving to reefs in 30 to 35 foot depths. Most bass in the area are 4 to 8 lbs., but one cow from Mamaroneck weighed 43 lbs. 2 ozs. on the scales at the Station. Eastchester bay had some nice medium size flounder to offer.

Pete Anderson told us that the **North Star** managed to "get by" on Sunday although it "blew like hell." The best days of the week were Thursday and Friday when the boat managed 12 to 20 tautog per man. Blackfish are being taken in 12 to 20 feet of water with pool winners around 8 lbs.

GLEN COVE

Dave watt at the **Glen Cove Sport Shop** mentioned "superlative" flounder fishing with nice 1 lb. stuff in the back harbors and Desoris Pond. Blackfish are still spotty, though there are some big fish in the area. Phil Knox put up a 19 lb. 12 oz. bluefish on the scale to lead the Sport Shop's contest. The alligator was taken on a bunker chunk near Morgan's Jetty. James Goolsby fooled a 7 lb. 14 oz. brown trout at the Connectquot on a "Wooly Bugger".

HUNTINGTON

Packy Collins told us that **The Ever Ready** is packing it in for the season now that fares seem to be declining in number. The fish are not declining at all, however. Average catches last weekend were six fish per person with blues running 6 to 7 lbs. and bass to over 10. On Sunday, all on board had 1 to 2 bass. Collins won a local Huntington Angler's Derby with a 13 lb. bass and said that Vinnie Maiorana and a few other local boats found a school of 12 lb. blues on top off the loading platform at the end of thw week.

George Valentine at **Four Winds Bait & Tackle** said that 5 to 15 bass per boat was the norm off Eaton's this week. Wire line trolling with red and black tubes was the ticket. Valentine expects tube preference to shift to white in coming weeks. Jigging wioth 2 and 3 oz. Tri Fin Tiger Stripe jigs also worked before dark. Some big blues were mixed with bass, but Crab Meadow Mackamha were best bets for the slammers. Blackfish from 8½ lbs. were checked in from the buoy

11b zone.

Ronnie Feraro at **Ronnie's Bait & Tackle** mentioned that worm trollers were also successful on bass off Marshall Fields and advised trying the tautog off buoy 24c as well as 11b. Flounder are small to nice sizes. The outstanding catch of the week was Norm Van Deinze's 20", 4 lb. 6 oz. porgie taken from Callahan's on Friday in 50 feet of water along with a catch of smaller scup from 1 to 1½ lbs. Ronnie knew the scup was big when it filled a box used for worm flats.

NORTHPORT

Tom Bowman at **Bowman's** suggested that Tiger Tails could also be employed in drifting for the Eaton's bass, and that 5 to 10 am was the best time to go. Catching the raiding parties of bluefish was likened to deer hunting, and the best slammer of the week was a 14 lber. from Mackamha. 6 to 8 oz. sinkers are advised for local blacks in the currents offshore, and beach fishermen are also doing well on the tautog around high water.

KINGS PARK

Russell, at the **O.K. Bait & Tackle** saw some monster blues last week, including Eddie Higgin's 18 lber. from Sunken Meadow. Small flounder can be found in the Nissequogue River all day long for those who drown worms. Snappers are gone and there are a few small blackfish by the Mansion and by Callahan's.

PORT JEFFERSON

Subscriber Art Swartt called and passed the word on that Wednesday fishing with Sandy Patchefski on his boat Gotcha II fishing in the Oldfield area west of Port Jeff Harbor, they took 14 good blackfish up to 4½ lbs. on fiddlers on a ripping ebb tide fishing on top of rocks and mussel beds.

The **Caraftis Fishing Station** said that blackfish are now featured off Oldfield and Crane's, and, although most of the tautog are small, there are a few fish to 8 lbs. Plenty of small flounder will oblige both inside and outside the harbor.

John Fisher told us that the best day on the **Aqua Gem** for blackfish last week was Tuesday, when 8 fares put 140 tautog on the decks. Herb Johnson took the pool honors with a 9 lber. Fisher expects to sail through November.

MOUNT SINAI

Ralph Davenport at **Ralph's** saw lots of blackfish on Saturday along with some big porgies from 1 to 2½ lbs. off the beach. Mount Misery and Miller Place were mentioned as hot spots for the tautog, and Davenport advised that most fish were 3 to 4 lbers. The three hours before and

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NATIONAL SCENE:

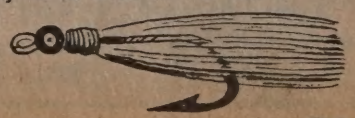
(Continued from page 7.)

foreigners (even at the expense of American fishermen) as they could. In any case, negotiations with the Japanese under the present circumstances are impossible. The "compromises" worked out both last year and recently resulted in their giving up practically nothing while effectively stalling action on bills to correct this incredible situation. The miracle is that so far no other country has taken advantage of our inability to protect our resources, but I wouldn't be surprised to see Mexico do so in the near future.

What all of this boils down to is that if you want to see a bluefin tuna fishery in the future, you'd better get pen in hand and write to your Congressman. We're certainly not going to get any help from the State or Commerce Departments! Request Senatorial support of Sen. Weicker's bill S.1564 by writing to U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. Ask your representative to support H.R. 4457 by writing to him at House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515.

ATAC Dinner a Big Success

If the enthusiasm demonstrated by north Jersey sportsmen can be duplicated elsewhere, the tuna exemption should soon be eliminated. A big crowd turned out at the Channel Club on September 25 for the dinner and auction to benefit the American Tuna Action Committee (ATAC). Prominent local politicians such as State Senator Tom Gagliano and Assemblywoman Marie Muhler were on hand to lend support, and Axel Carlson conducted a super auction—even getting $40 for a single Bufferin! John Meyer deserves the plaudits of all for the great job he did in setting this up. The money raised should keep Executive Director Arnie Taylor knocking on doors in Washington for awhile and, if we keep this up, we may just end up with enough funding to knock heads with that West Coast tuna lobby on a more equal basis. Heck, we might even look respectable enough to have the State Department pay some attention to us!



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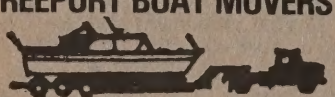

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Joey Cassese and Ernie Matera with Joey's 8 lb. doormat and 2 other keepers taken back in July just south of the Shinnecock Canal. Photo courtesy of Corr's Fishing Station.

after high water seems to be the best times.

North Fork Report

by Martin Garrell

AQUEBOGUE

Nick Cyprus at **Warren's Tackle Center** advised us that the pipeline was very good for blackfish and for mixed sizes of bluefish. Some bass in the 4-10 lb. class seem to be showing now along with very large blues for trollers in the area. One boat fisherman brought in an alligator bluefish that "weighed 24 lbs. and change." Though most troll umbrellas with red and black tubes, Cyprus prefers large amber single tubes and yellow pork rind. Mr. Petro, a regular at the shop, stopped by with 40 flounder from the Shinnecock area, and Cyprus also suggested that flounder fans try the Indian Island area as well.

SOUTHOLD

Sue Kovich at the **Southold Fishing Station** was looking at "bass and more bass" brought in from the Gut and Pigeon Rip. Fish are all sizes and some big blues were mixed in.

Ace Cottral at the **Port of Egypt** told us that there was a pick of blackfish off the Brickyard and the Greenlawns in Southold Bay with some nice flounder inside Pipe's Cove and off the Oyster Factory. Those who take flounder off Ben's Point, however, are competing with the draggers in a no-win situation. Off Orient, although the west end of Petty's Bight gets dragged at regular intervals, the rocky zones along the eastern traps cannot be dragged. Mulford blackfish run from 2-5 lbs, but the heavy moontides were a problem late last week.

GREENPORT

Both the **Brand X** and the **Peconic Star** have finished porgy fishing for the year, topping it off with rousing catches under sunny skies Saturday. Both boats are now switching over to blackfish. See ad for details.

Art White at the **A.P. White Bait Shop** advised using No Alibi 2-3 oz. bucktails, #70 pork rind, and heavy sinkers for the Plum Gut bucktail rig which has been doing well on bacc recently. Porgy action was still good for the **Brand X** and the **Peconic Star** off New London Dumping Grounds, but with the fares tiring of scup, the boats have now switched to blackfish. Tom Bernhardt showed a troop of Boy Scouts how to take blackfish last week

on the **Peconic Gypsy** and watched John Sinning, Jr. take a pool winning 9 lber. Flounder inside Gull Pond can run 1-1¼ lbs. with a lot of fish in some catches. Sterling Creek and the Marina are also worth trying.

Richie Jensen managed an outstanding catch of 200 blackfish for a party of 16 on the **Nancy Ann** on Sunday despite horrendous south winds. Biggest tautog on that rip ran 10 lbs. Jensen gets a few bass every day, and hauled 5 linesiders to 35 lbs. on Friday. Although there are a few bluefish around, Jensen guesses that the main run may have passed by now.

South Fork Report

by Stu Miller

SHINNECOCK

Thom at **Specks Bait and Tackle** says the high winds of the weekend limited the amount of fishing done. However, prior to the weekend and the wind flounders put on a good show in Noyac Creek, Noyac Bay and Shinnecock Bay. Blackfish continue though slowing down a little at the Shinnecock jetties, fish mixed sizes.

The **Captain Clark II** reports blackfishing improves as the water continues to cool. Saturday's ocean wreck trip for blacks had excellent results with some fares having 2 pails full. Some porgies and sea bass were also caught. Amanda Wright of Bellport was pool winner with an 8 lb. black. There will be another ocean wreck trip on Saturday and Sunday, October 24 and 25.

SAG HARBOR

Captain Artie Latch of the **Wilhelric II** has waved bye bye to the porgies for '81. He is now fishing blackfish everyday. He stopped and took a shot at it Sunday at Indian Grounds and had over 50 blacks to 8 lbs. in just one hour. Artie said looks like a strong blackfish fall ahead.

Surf Report

by Fred Golofaro

While smiling faces continue to remain in the minority among surfmen around most of the Island, there were at least some if this week's reports are any indication. One or two

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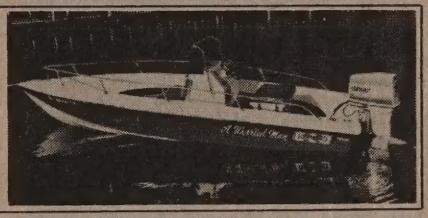

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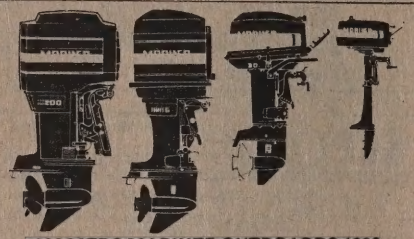

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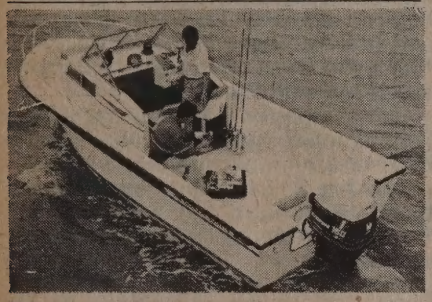

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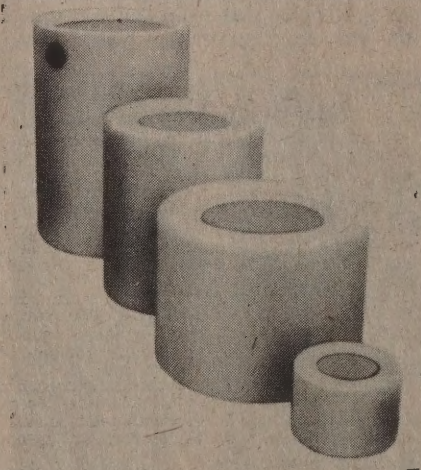

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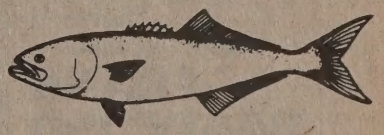

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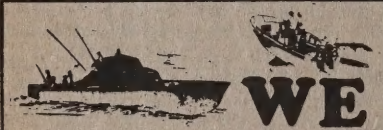

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nice bass go a long way towards erasing the memories of being blanked numerous times during the season.

Big bass were indigenous to south shore beaches while trophy size blues continue to dominate north shore headlines.

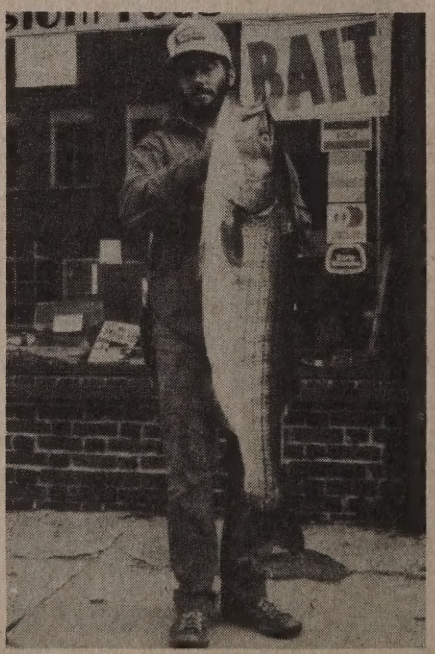
Along western south shore beaches between Point Lookout and Atlantic Beach, Bernie Haag reported things have been very quiet in recent days. He felt that the current lack of bait in the area is responsible for the lull.

At West End Jones Beach Thursday evening, Richie Simmons of East Islip told of dropping a big striper when the belly hook of a large Danny swimmer opened up. Rich added that loads of bunker moved through the area on the last of outgoing and first of the flood. Returning on Saturday, all was quiet.

To the east, Jim Folz used bait to put a 38½ lber on the beach at Gilgo. He told Ski Kochanski of **Augie's Bait and Tackle** in Babylon that bunker chunks had been accounting for big blues at daybreak each morning.

Not far from the site of Jim's catch, Andy Teresko of Bay Shore used RedFins to take a 35 lb. striper and an 11 lb. blue on Saturday. He took the fish at Fire Island and checked them at both **Smokey's Bait and Tackle** in Bay Shore and the **Captree Bait Station.**

"Big John" Schauer, who has been keeping close tabs on the activity at Robert Moses Parking Fields 3 and 4, said that most days this past week saw some action with blues and a few stripers. John used Pasqualle Jigs to take blues up to about 7 lbs. and said most of those who have been scoring are sticking with tin. Largest bass he saw this week was a 20 but a bigger fish was dropped in the wash. Carl Matsuda worked field #3 on Sunday and counted a 16 lb. blue among his catch of four. The big chopper was also checked in at the Captree Bait Station.



Bob Aurisy used a bunker chunk to take this 36 lb. bass in the western Sound. Fish was weighed at John's Gun and Tackle.

Dave Cavale of **J&R Sport Center** in Oakdale knew of a fish in the 30s taken on an eel Saturday afternoon near Cedar Beach. He was more enthused about the activity along the Moriches Shore Saturday AM where Bill Kollmer of Bohemia used a J2 diamond lure to take bass of 12, 17 and 28 lbs. In addition, Bill told Dave that he saw 7 other fish in the teens and twenties taken along the same stretch of beach. Harry Kaminski used a tin to take a 30 lber at cut #1, also on Saturday.

Dick of **Dick's Bait and Tackle** in Mastic Beach, who weighed the fish, knew of other fish to 40 lbs. taken both on National Seashore property and County Park property. He added that some blues were scattered along the beach with the bass.

Out at **Speck's Bait and Tackle** in Southampton, Thom said that ocean beaches continued quiet this week but noted that an occasional bass is still being taken from the east jetty at Shinnecock Inlet on Rebels, bucktails, and eels.

It was quiet all week at Montauk according to Johnny of **Johnny's Tackle Shop.** The only exceptions were a few nice blues in Turtle Cove at the end of the week and a few bass and a couple of weaks under the light Saturday PM. Biggest bass Saturday was a 39 lber. taken by Jerry Kanischak, the rest were 20 lb. class fish. A big heave and wind hurt the fishing but John hoped Monday's northwester would put things back on track.

On the north shore, most of the bluefish activity is concentrated from Huntington to points East. Ronnie, of **Ronnie's Bait and Tackle,** said big blues continue to fall to popping plugs and bunker chunks at Caumsett, Makamah, and Crab Meadow Beaches. The Lilco outflow has been producing an occasional bass along with big blues on bunker. School bass were taken along the C.S.H. Causeway after dark by casters using Rebels.

At **Rocky Point Fishing Stop,** Stan said that there is a load of bait laying off the beach and this blow (Monday) should put it right back in the wash. Some bass are scattered along local beaches. They are being taken after dark on Rebels and RedFins. Blues ranging from 2-16 lbs. being picked on a steady basis mornings and evenings with pencil poppers and bunker chunks.

Out on the North Fork, Ed of **Warren's Tackle,** told me of some real slammer blues taken at Iron Pier Beach. A 19.4 lber. fell to a plug while a mackerel chunk was responsible for a 19 lb. 1 oz. fish. Also some big blues at Horton's on plugs. After dark, yellow or blackback RedFins take a few bass at Reeves, Mattituck Inlet and Iron Pier Beach.

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables:

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet...–0 50" is listed under "ON SANDY HOOK." –0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THUR.	4:20	4:40	5:15	5:35	5:00	5:20	6:05	6:30	8:35	9:00	7:50	8:15	4:10	4:35	10/22
FRI.	5:20	5:40	6:15	6:35	6:00	6:20	7:05	7:25	9:25	9:55	8:45	9:10	5:05	5:30	10/23
SAT.	6:15	6:30	7:05	7:25	6:50	7:10	7:50	8:15	10:15	10:45	9:35	10:00	5:55	6:15	10/24
SUN.	6:00	6:15	6:50	7:10	6:35	6:55	7:30	7:55	10:00	10:25	9:25	9:45	5:40	6:00	10/25
MON.	6:40	6:55	7:25	7:45	7:15	7:30	8:10	8:35	10:40	11:05	10:05	10:25	6:20	6:40	10/26
TUE.	7:15	7:30	8:05	8:25	7:55	8:10	8:45	9:10	11:20	11:45	10:40	11:05	7:00	7:20	10/27
WED.	7:50	8:05	8:40	9:00	8:30	8:50	9:20	9:45	11:45	–	11:15	11:40	7:40	8:00	10/28
THUR.	8:25	8:35	9:15	9:35	9:05	9:25	9:55	10:20	12:15	12:05	11:50	–	8:20	8:40	10/29

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	–0 01
Red Bank, Navesink, R.I.	+0 48
Long Branch	–0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	–0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	–0 12
Seaside Park	–0 33
Mantoloking zbridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	–0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	–0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	–0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 46
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	–0 02
Rehoboth Beach	–0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	–0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	–0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Harts Cove	+1 30
Pontunck Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	–0 38
Democrat Point	–0 38
Coast Guard Station	–0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	–0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	–0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	–0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+0 38
JFK Airport	+0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	–0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	–0 08
Herod Point	–0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 19
Horton Point	–0 20
Truman Beach	–0 42
Falkner Island	–0 13
Sachem Head	–0 10
Branford Harbor	–0 07
New Haven Harbor	–0 08
Milford Harbor	–0 07
Stratford	+0 27
Shelton	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor	–0 03
Saugatuck River	–0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	–0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land	–0 14
Montauk Inlet	–0 25
Montauk Point	–1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington	–0 33
Noank, Mystic River	–0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	–0 01
Norwich	+0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+1 10
Lyme	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	–0 10
Execution Light	–0 06
Manhasset Bay	–0 01
Hempstead Harbor	–0 11
City Island	–0 03
Rye Beach	–0 28
Port Chester	–0 09
Mamaroneck	–0 08
New Rocheele	–0 24
Davids Island	–0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	–0 10
Miami Beach	+1 17
East Point	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	–0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburg	+3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	–0 10
Tiverton	+0 21
Beavertail Point	–0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+0 10
Bristol	+0 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayett Point	+0 12
Pawtucket	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	–0 08
Point Judith Harbor	–0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Old Harbor	–0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

10/23	7:21	6:07
10/24	7:23	6:06
10/25	6:24	5:04
10/26	6:25	5:03
10/27	6:26	5:01
10/28	6:27	5:00
10/29	6:28	4:59

Moonrise/Moonset

10/23	2:52AM	4:30PM
10/24	3:54AM	4:58PM
10/25	3:55AM	4:25PM
10/26	4:55AM	4:52PM
10/27	5:54AM	5:19PM
10/28	6:52AM	5:48PM
10/29	7:50AM	6:19PM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
10/27	10/6	10/13	10/20

The Original Knight

SOLUNAR TABLES

When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for this week as printed below have been taken from the original ***KNIGHT SOLUNAR TABLES.*** Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type face.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
Thurs.	1:40	**7:45**	1:55	**8:05**
Fri.	2:20	**8:25**	2:35	**8:50**
Sat.	3:05	**9:10**	3:20	**9:30**
Sun.	2:45	**8:50**	3:00	**9:10**
Mon.	3:25	**9:25**	3:35	**9:45**
Tues.	4:00	**10:05**	4:15	**10:25**
Wed.	4:40	**10:50**	5:00	**11:15**
Thurs.	5:30	**11:40**	5:50	—

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